

WHO IS THIS CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK?



DRESS The pinstripe brigade marches again



TOMORROW ELTON: **ME AND GARDEN** WEEKEND



FOOTBALL SATURDAY

Danny Baker Steve McManaman Oliver Holt SPORT

Shares slide after Hong Kong crash



wrong but didn't we meet here ten

By Janet Bush and Alasdair Murray IN LONDON AND JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

THE London stock market suffered its biggest one-day fall since Black Monday - October 16, 1987 - as the shockwaves from an overnight crash in Hong Kong swept round

In London, more vulnerable than most to a meltdown in Hong Kong because of extensive British interests and investments in the former colony, the FTSE 100 index of leading shares closed down 157.3 points at 4,991.5. At one point, the FTSE had plunged 222 points with

has lost its position as Britain's

In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng index had its worst day, closing down by more than 10 per cent. plunging 1,211.47 points to finish at 10,426.30. That was an even bigger drop than its loss on the day of the 1987 stock market crash. The Hang Seng has lost nearly 25 per cent of its value this week and about 35 per cent since Hong Kong was returned

to China in July. Yesterday's selling was provoked by lears that international speculators, who have already forced devaluations of most other currencies in the Far East, now have the Hong Kong dollar in their sights.
On Wali Street, the Dow Jones fell

wave of selling after European markets closed, to stand 220 points

Richard Jeffrey, group economist at Charterhouse Group, said: "Hong Kong is a minor market relative to world markets, but it is having a large psychological impact worrying that the bull market may have run its course."

Hong Kong's leaders stood firm yesterday in defence of the Hong Kong dollar, which has been pegged to the US dollar for the past 14 years and is regarded as the key to the territory's economic success and stability in recent years. Interest

170 points in the first few minutes of and make speculation prohibitively trading and hurched into another expensive. Overnight interest rates charged to banks jumped to as high as 300 per cent from 6 per cent on Wednesday morning. Several banks raised their prime rates yesterdy by

0.75 per cent to 9.50 per cent.

The attack on the Hong Kong dollar took on dangerous momentum after Taiwan abandoned its usual staunch defence of its currency late last week. Taiwan had been egarded as a haven of economic stability in the Far East, so badly battered by selling over the past two months, and its decision to allow the Taiwan dollar to float sent a powerfully negative message to

investors in Hong Kong.

Tung Chee-hwa, Hong Kong's
Chief Executive, who has been vis-

iting London this week, promised that the Hong Kong dollar would be defended. He said: "There is tremendous determination on the part of the Hong Kong Government to maintain the exchange rate. We have every confidence this can be done. We have signalled to the market our determination, Interest rates have gone up and as a result there is a short-term repercussion on the stock market. This is to be

Sir Donald Tsang, Hong Kong's Financial Secretary, could not have tors about the foreign exchange reserves that were ready to be mobilised. "Joseph Yam (thief of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority) is sitting on more than \$88 billion.

Even in the teeth of panic selling, Hong Kong economists were rela-tively sanguine that the territory could weather the storm. Elizabeth Soon, director of South East Asia for Schroders Investment Manage-ment, said that the Hong Kong market is undervalued at these levels and is gradually buying shares. There were, however, some ceptical voices, John Reynolds, nead of research at ING Barings. said: There is absolutely zero incentive to say at the moment Long live the Hong Kong dollar.

Au pair tells of attempt to revive dying baby

THE British au pair Louise Woodward, accused of murdering an eight-month old baby in her care, told the jury yesterday that she did not ever shake, hit or slam the baby.

In her long-awaited appearance in the witness box, Miss Woodward, calm, composed and articulate, told the court of how she found Matthew Eappen on February 4, the day on which he was rushed unconscious to nospital.

She said: "He seemed off colour. His eyes were half closed. He wasn't breathing properly. He was gasping for breath. I tried to give him CPR jeardio pulmonary rescuci-

How to pick a nanny Page 19

tation), then I called 911." Minutes earlier, she had been asked by Andrew Good, her defence lawyer, a series of O: Did vou ever shake

Matthew? Q: Did you ever

Q: Did you ever slam Matthew about the head?

A: No. O: Did vou ever siam Matthew at all?

The entire panel of jurors watched intently as Miss Woodward looked her questioner in the eye and spoke

without tremor. Later, however er, she broke down as she described how Matthew slipped into a coma. in the gallery, her father, ary, clenched and un-

Gary, clenched and un-clenched his fist nervously and his wife. Susan, smiled ashenly at her daughter. Miss Woodward, dressed in

a navy blue blazer and a kneelength checked skirt, proceeded to answer a series of uestions about her lie as au pair in America and the reasons why she came here in the first place."It was a chance for a young person to experience another culture, lan-guage and to have the experience of taking care of children in an American family.

She said she came from a large extended family in Chester, and that she was the eldest of 13 grandchildren. She said: "We always got together once a week. I would take charge. I would play with them and take care of them."

When asked why she chose to be an au pair, she said: *Working with children is

something I enjoy."

She said that in early 1996 she had gone to Manchester for an interview with an agency which placed Euro-pean girls with American families. In June 1996 she went to the home of the Komishane family near Boston, but said it was not what she had expected. "I guess I didn't really have a clear picture of what the place was like. I didn't realise their



Louise Woodward biting her nails yesterday before starting to give her evidence in the Massachusetts court

house was situated in the woods," she said.

She looked after the family's eight-month-old boy, named Landon. She said: "I loved Landon very much. We got on well. But I did have certain problems with the family. I didn't feel I was getting to do everything I had come here to

Miss Woodward then told of

how isolated she felt in the village, cut off from Boston and its attractions because transport links were poor. She did not have a car and her curfew, at 11pm every night, meant that she could seldom venture out without returning

home late. It was her problem with this another family, and she even-

tually settled on the Eappens. Miss Woodward described a typical day at the Eappens, which would begin at 7.45am after the parents had left for work. She said: The first thing I would do was to take charge of the children. I had to prepare their meals, change diapers and play with the stuffed with toys and books.

"I did a lot of make-believe with Brendan [a two-year-old]. We danced to music. He liked to sing. At least once a day we tried to go to the park for a walk, if it was not too cold. We got Matthew as much as we possibly could. Brendan would help me if I was changing Matthew. Matthew was a placed baby. He

Continued on page 2, col 5 Euro-vote to ban milk chocolate

The European Parliament has announced that the term milk chocolate" should be outlawed and sales of the British product banned across the European Union until it is lested further.

The Strasbourg vote, which could be overturned, was a setback in the campaign to end the EU's 24-year chocolate war. This has pitted Belgium, France and other. "cocoa purists" against Britain and six othersPage 5

Brown's credit to Whitehall staff

Gordon Brown has decided to credit civil servants with common sense in a scheme to cut unnecessary paperwork and save millions of pounds a vear. Officials are to be issued

very sore and bloodshot." He with Visa cards to buy office materials, ending the need for countiess order forms, estimates and phone calls before being authorised to buy even the most merpensive office

Two charged over 'road rage' deaths A SECOND-HAND car deal-

ter of Toby Exley and Karen Martin in a suspected road

rage incident. Jason Humble, 32, of Farnborough, Hampshire, was arrested early yesterday morning at his hom

A second man. Keith Collier, 49, also a car dealer, is charged with assisting an offender and will also appear at Feltham Magistrates Court, southwest London.

It is alleged that he falsely reported the theft of a car: to police, knowing it had been involved in a fatal road acrident five days earlier, and tried to inspede the arrest of

manslaughter. A car which is alleged to belong to one of the men, and is believed to have been involved in the crash, was recovered from a pub car

Mr Exley, 22, a chef, and his 20-year-old girlfriend, a finan-

cial assistant, died when their er will appear in court today Ford Fiesta crossed the central charged with the manslaugh reservation of a dual carriage way and was hit by an oncoming car. It is believed their car may

have been mudged from behind by the driver of a car. following them on the A316 road in Hanworth, west London:

Police said a white Varixhall Senator recovered vesterday matched descriptions given by witnesses, including part of the registration plate.

"We are confident it is the same vehicle," said a Metropolitan Police source. "We are examining it for damage." He was unable to say if any attempt had been made to

The couple's car was allegedly hit three times on October 6 because they were travelling too slowly.

After the incident police said that they would use national componers to trace all cars with registration plates, beginning K5

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First conviction for attack by laser

By Adrian Lee

A TEENAGER who shone a dangerous beam into a policeman's eyes yesterday became the first person to be convicted of assault by a laser pen. The devices, which have a

range of 200ft, are designed for use by lecturers to pinpoint text on overhead charts. But they have also become a craze among teenagers and are popular in clubs and at concerts. They cost from about £30, and can be bought without restriction, although a doctor warned yesterday that they can damage the eye in the time

it takes to blink A laser pen produces a narrow beam of light whose intensity is 100 times greater than looking at the sun and 100 million ames more intense than the light from a television set. The same technology is being used to produce digital video discs. In a series of recent incidents, bus drivers and a fireman have been injured.

Leicester magistrates heard yesterday that a policeman became aware of a red light shining in his eyes, near a car in which Mark Taberer, 19. was sitting. Mark Williams, for the prosecution, said: "He felt discomfort and it was an annoyance." Officers found a laser pen on Taberer's key

ring.
The teenager, of Oadby. Leicestershire, who admitted common assault, was given an absolute discharge and ordered to pay £25 costs. Jane Holland, for the de-

> ness," said Dr Kar, a reader in physics who is conducting a study of laser pens.

Laser pen: has range of more than 200 yds

fence, said he did not know the pen was dangerous and had not deliberately shone it into the police car. He was using the pen to create pretty pat-terns in the sky ... he bought not intentionally buy it to cause people injury."Low-powered lasers, such as those used in supermarket scanners, are harmless but the laser pens are much stronger

between one and five milli-

wants - and can cause perma-

nent damage to the retina. Dr Ajoy Kar, of Heriot-Watt University. Edinburgh, wants sales of the battery-operated pens controlled. Although the pens have been on sale for more than five years, the power of the lasers has increased five fold. They are now strong enough to cause permanent retinal damage and, in extreme cases, blind-

Last month. Liam and Noel Gallagher of the band Oasis complained that they had been targetted by a laser pen Earl's Court. In February. Vinnie Jones the Wimbledon footballer was also a victim when he accused Leicester City fans of shining a beam in his face as he took a throw in. David Bowe, the Labour MEP for Cleveland and Rich-

mond, is leading moves to have the sale of laser pens

controlled and has demanded

an investigation by the Euro

pean Commission. At present

the pens can be bought over the counter or by mail order. Earlier this month six bus drivers were temporarily blinded in separate incidents by children using the pens. They were treated in hospital. David Sanderson, a fireman from Durham, is off work after a "pinprick of light" hit him in the eye as he tackled a fire. He said: "It made me blink. Later on my eye became

has been told there will not be permanent damage. in America, a girl who claims she was injured by a laser pen is seeking damages from the manufacturers.

THE successful candidate knows "the importance of adopting a new language and a more friendly style". Sounds familiar. The new caring and compassionate side of the Tory party perhaps? It is, in fact, from The Language of the 21st Century, a report circulated by Frank Luntz. the Republican polister and adviser to the Congressional leadership.

The Blairites are not the only people to borrow ideas from across the Atlantic Mr Luntz is well known in Tory circles in London. He has close contacts with the Social Market Foundation, whose founders, Danny Finkelstein and Andrew political directors at Conservative Central Office. The links between the Luntz memo and the new Tory approach at the Blackpool conference were admitted as a "fair coo" when I pointed them out yesterday.

The Luntz memo tells the Republicans that they are out of touch. The American people really think Bill Clinton feels their pain. and they really think you feel nothing". The successful candidate. it argues, knows how much average Americans "want to regain a sense of belonging and community in their lives". The successful candi-

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

about the leadership choosing

candidates, and constituency

Harry Barnes, whose Der-

byshire North East seat is also

in Mr Coates's constituency.

said: "I am becoming increas-

ingly concerned at the move

towards intolerance in our

Mrs Kinnock, who was speaking at Strasbourg, described the four suspended

men as "posturers". She said:

They are loving all this

attention, which far outweighs

their importance and signifi-

She said that she was deter-

mined to voice the views of the

vast majority of the 62 MEPs.

who last week were given closer links with Mr Blair's

Government. He has ap-

proved 19 of his MEPs, includ-

Whitehall departmental meet-

Mrs Kinnock, attending

cance to the Labour group."

parties will not like it."

date knows both how to "speak in terms of people, ideas and vision" rather than dollars and cents, facts and figures, and the importance of "listening to women and adopting a new language and a more friendly

Discussing the memo in the current edition of The New Yorker, Henry Louis Gates reports that when "the subject is education, the candidate must say things like 'Education is about the future' ... even when the subject is not, the

candidate must learn to say, 'lt's about the children."

As Hanna Rosin writes in The New Republic, "After complaining that Bill Clinton has stolen their issues, Republicans have decided to steal his style. The style, that is, of simulated pain and no real feeling. after which nothing gets done".

Both the Republicans and Conservatives have suffered from appearing cold and insensitive to the economic upheavals which have created insecurity. The Tories have

also suffered from being seen as out-of-touch with the attitudes of a younger generation. The Tory share of the vote of 19 to 29-year-olds fell to 22 per cent on May 1.

Of course, there are big differences between the two countries. The religious Right is powerful within the Republican Party, pushing issues such as school prayer and a ban on abortion, and opposing measures favouring homosexuals.

The Tories have greater freedom of manoeuvre on moral issues. Yet they face a similar dilemma, as the Blackpool conference showed. Is the new compassionate, tolerant face

suggested by William Hague and Michael Portillo any more than symbolic, a rhetorical gesture to younger voters? There are few direct policy implications; certainly none that has so far been revealed.

The Luntz memo shows how the Right has lost touch with the public mood. It does not indicate that the Right's analysis of economic and social policy is wrong, Indeed, the problems of the Clinton Administration and emerging difficulties of the Blair Government show that a "caring" rhetoric is not enough.

PETER RIDDELL

University students contract

meningitis

Two 19-year-old first year male students have caught meningitis at a university where two died in an outbreak il months ago. The two are recovering well in bospital but the 8,000 other students on the same campus at the University of Wales Institute. Cardiff, have been alerted to watch out for symptoms of the disease.

The students from

Worcester and Canterbury, are on different courses and not believed to have been in contact. Both have Group B meningococcal meningitis

By-election date

The Winchester by-clee-tion, which is to be held after the High Court ruled the constituency's result in the general election void. is to take place on Novemher 20. The Liberal Democrats will formally move the writ on Toesday after MPs return to the House

Malaria death

A new system for screen ing blood donors was being introduced when Cecil Cook, 78, of Colchester, died from cerebral maiaria in August, two weeks after receiving contam-inated blood as treatment for anaemia, an inquest at was told. Verdict: medical misadventure.

laccused

asault

Council threat

A government "hit squad" will take over the social services department of Sefton council on Merseyside if it is not improved within two mouths, the Health Minister Paul Boateng said yesterday. An inspection of the department found disturbing and serious failures".

Paper guilty

The London Evening Standard was guilty of article that halted a terro ism trial in January, Lord Justice Kennedy ruled in the High Court. He said it was dear publication had been an accident and reserved the size of the fine to a later date.

RAF pilot dies

Flight Lieutenant Leigh Alexander Fox, 35, originally from Epping in Esssez, who was killed in a mid-air collision in the Moiave desert in California on Wednesday, was on a pilot exchange mission with his wife and young family, the Minis-try of Defence said.

TV Tarantino

accused was a normal, healthy

teenage girl appeared to be

working. Often, when she

smiled, jurors would appear to

The decision to put Miss Woodward on the stand at

Middlesex Superior Court in

Cambridge was an apparent victory for Mr Good over

Barry Scheck, Miss Wood-

ward's main defence lawyer.

Sources close to the defence

team say that he was "luke-

warm" about the idea of

exposing her to the glare of

Mr Scheck, whose master-

ful performance so far, has

chipped away at the credibility

of a number of the prosecu-

tion's medical witnesses, be-

lieved that Miss Woodward

was "ahead on points" already

and that her team had intro-

duced a sufficiently powerful

element in the minds of jurors

for them to now find it

impossible to convict her of

The film Pulp Fiction. which won the top prize at Cannes but brickbats for its scenes of violence, drug-taking and swear-ing is to be shown on BBC television. Quentin Tarantino's Oscar-winning movie is to be screened virtually uncut on BBC2 on November 2.

Portfolio prize

Andrea Carter, an investment banker from Battersea, South London, has won £4,000 in the Times Portfolio game. She said: "I have never won anything before, not even £10 on the lottery. I'm speechless." Ms Carter, 35, said she may spend some of the money on a holiday.

Glenys Kinnock accuses MEPs of 'extremism'

By ANDREW PIERCE POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

GLENYS KINNOCK yesterday inflamed the row over the suspension of four Labour MEPs by accusing them of trying to revive the extremism that her husband Neil had sought to banish.

But Labour MPs at Westminster yesterday rallied to the defence of Ken Coates, the leader of the rebels, and accused Tony Blair of trying to suppress debate. The MEPs -Mr Coates, Hugh Kerr, Alex Falconer and Michael Hindley - said yesterday that they would fight on. They were suspended for refusing to sign an order preventing them from discussing with the media the proportional repre-sentation system to be used for the European Parliament elec-Mrs Kinnock, a Euro-MP

BRITAIN TENTH FOR SEX EQUALITY

Tony Blair's Government comes tenth in a league table of sexual equality among 40 countries surveyed by the Council of Europe. First is Sweden. where 50 per cent of the senior ministers are

women. Norway, with 42 per cent, is second. Five of the Government's 22 Cabinet Ministers (23 per cent) are women. Britain came twelfth in the percentages of women MPs in each country, with 18 per cent.

EU Commissioner after nine years as Labour leader, said: This is a very small hard core. These people over many years have just been wreckers. "I am obviously familiar over the years with this sort of thing, when Neil was party leader, as he tried to do something about the problem.

The party went through all this in the past and there is no wish for this kind of thing to rear its ugly head again." There was surprising sup-port for the rebels from Joe

Ashton, whose Bassetlaw constituency is in Mr Coates's Nottingham and Chesterfield Euro-constituency. He said: "I am on the opposite wing of the party from Ken and I have crossed swords with him in the past. But I have some sympathy for him on this

The subject has not been properly debated and it should have been. This has caused unease in the constituency parties, who have not been properly consulted. This is

ings and shadowing all government ministries. The four rebels will still sit as MEPs and will be expected to take the Labour whip. They fear that the new selection process was a device to leave them off the Euro-lists in 1999 in favour of more Blairite

> candidates. Mr Coates kept up the attack on the Prime Minister in Tribune yesterday. He wrote of the systematic opportunism which drives new Labour further and further to the right and pits it against the needs of the poorest people in the country. But it remains quite useful that there are two parliaments. two manifestos and a reminder of what Labour used to be."

Simon 'was not FT source'

By NICHOLAS WATT, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LORD Simon of Highbury denied yesterday that he was the minister who prompted intense press speculation about British entry to the European single currency.

The Trade and Industry Minister said that he was not the source for a report in the Britain would sign up to EMU soon after the first wave in January 1999. He issued his statement after Lord Tebbit, the former Conservative Party chair-man, had tabled a a question in the House of Lords asking whether it is part of the duty of the Minister for Trade and Competitiveness in Europe to brief representatives of the

Financial Times newspaper on government thinking". not the source of the Finan-

that time and had no contact with the British media while I Lord Tebbit maintained

his assault on Lord Simon yesterday, attacking him for failing to respond in the Lords to his question. The peer told BBC Radio 4's The World at One: "I know the Parliament and keeps the cial Times article ... In fact I House of Commons as much was on holiday in Portugal at out of the way as possible."



Gary Woodward and his wife Susan, listening to evidence in their daughter's defence

Woodward evidence fence's gamble, which was to convey to the jury that the

liked to watch us, especially when we danced about. I'd lay him on his tummy as much as I could." She told of how she was interviewed by the Eappen family in early November 1996, some weeks before she moved in with them. "Debbie's mum was there, and Debbie [Deborah Sunil [the father] and the two children. It was very pleasant and relaxed. Debbie breast-fed Matthew while I was there. We discussed the general responsibilities and we

talked about a curfew." She described how they had been deadlocked on the question, because the Eappens were keen that she should follow a curfew. Apparently, they had had problems with previous au pairs and did not want those to recur.

Miss Woodward continued: "I told them that I did not want a curfew because (had never had one in England. I thought that I could take on the

responsibility myself of deciding when I should come and when I should go." Ultimately, they agreed that she should come for a one month's trial period without a curfew, and that the situation would be

reviewed as it progressed. Mr Good, her lawyer, then moved on to the subject of the musical Rent, which, the jury has been told in preceeding days, Miss Woodward has seen more than 20 times. It was her inability to go to the theatre in the evenings that had caused the most acute problems when she lived with

and I think it is aimed very specifically at my age group. It's just a lot of fun to watch really. The music is a mixture

the Komishane family. Miss Woodward explained how the musical fascinated her.

guess you could say that it is kind of rock music." Ashen and impassive on

previous days, Miss Woodward was yesterday a picture of teenage vivacity. The de-

BBC row settled by compromise

By Raymond Snoddy, media editor

THE rebellion by BBC presenters and editors over the future organisation of radio and television news ended yesterday when the corporation's governors accepted a compromise formula.

The journalists had rebelled over plans to downgrade the editors of programmes such as Newsnight and Today. Even-Sir Christopher Bland, chairman of the BBC, did not know of the plans. Yesterday, the governors approved modifications designed to meet "concerns expressed both inside and outside the BBC that the editorial distinctiveness of certain programmes might be affected". In particular, the governors said, the position of

programme editors had been sateguarded.

Editors will retain their own budgets and have their own regular staff. Four executive editors will have more of a coordinating role to eliminate waste and to ensure that different programmes are not chasing the same stories and interviews. The role of a fifth executive editor, who would have been able to commission features across the entire journalistic output of the BBC, has also been downgraded to a co-

ordinating role. John Humphrys, the Today presenter, said when the compromise began to take shape that viewers and listeners

50 DAY HIGH INTEREST ACCOUNT e interesse objekt a see

REMEMBER, REMEMBER THE 31st OF OCTOBER Laser, Light and Fireworks Extravaganza. 31st October, 1st and 2nd November. For the last weekend of the LEGOLAND® year we've added some extra excitement. Each full day of fun will culminate in a Laser, Light and Fireworks Show and the arrival of aliens from the LEGO°Star. All for the normal admission price. We're open every day over

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or pay when you arrive. (By car rather

than UFO please.)

run in the family Champion jockey takes his boy along

for the ride on a big

day at the races,

writes **Lin Jenkins**

LIKE father like son. Lester Piggott's four-year-old son Jamie made his racecourse debut yesterday. Having been put in the saddle when he was 18 months old, Jamie had a two-year start on his father who was three before his father Keith, a national hunt jockey and trainer, put him on

The pair were taking part in a celebrity parade at Wincanton yesterday where 44 years ago the Il times champion jockey, now 61, rode his first victory over hurdles.

The proud father, with nine Derby wins to his credit, hoped his only son will follow in his footsteps. "There is nothing in the world that would make me happier than to watch my son win that race. Now that would be a dream," he said recently.

But yesterday, as he gave Jamie a grounding in the race day atmo-sphere — Jamie rode a Riding for the Disabled pony called Cabby past the applauding crowd — Mr Piggott said he had no intention of pushing him. Jamie has been on a horse a few times since he was 18 months old. We only let him on when he really wants to but he enjoyed



Piggott & Son: horses

Piggott with his father Keith

himself parmered another racing legend, the grey Desert Orchid, leaving Jamie's mother Anna Lud-low, 41, to lead her son, who was sporting the pink and white colours of his grandfather. He led a parade of racing names alongside his friend Alfie Bradstock, the three-year-old son of the veteran racing commentator Lord Oaksey.

She said afterwards: "We got him sitting in the saddle very early but he



is only just getting going. Jamie just loves horses, which I suppose is just as well. He is around them all the time. Lester and I are teaching him

between us and I think he certainly has a feel for it." Mr Piggott started riding out for his father at the age of ten and rode his first winner at 14. His own grandfather Ernie Piggott rode over 1,000 winners and was three times champion jockey over the jumps, winning the Grand National in 1912 and 1912. Another ancestor won the

Derby in 1821. Mr Piggott had two daughters, Tracey, 32, and Maureen, 36, by his wife of 38 years Susan. He has an unconventional arrangement living with his wife in the £1.5 million Eve Lodge Stables in Newmarket, while being a frequent visitor at the home in Cheveley, Cambridgeshire, five minutes' drive away, of Jamie and his mother, his close friend for 16



Jamie Piggott leading the parade on Cabby at Wincanton racecourse yesterday

Man accused of assault by shouting in wife's ear

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

referred to his tinnitus."

incident. She had been sub-

jected to an identical attack

early in 1996 which had left

her with permanent damage. She said there was a third

the three incidents.

A TEACHER who allegedly shouted at his wife so loudly that she suffered permanent ear damage appeared in court

yesterday accused of assault. Peter Pryor, 58, was said to have held his wife's arms by her sides as he put his mouth to her ear and yelled at the top of his voice. His 54-year-old wife, Christine, now wears a hearing aid and suffers con-stant ringing in her ears.

Mr Pryor, who ran a private tuition business with his wife from their farmhouse in north Devon, suffers from the hearwanted his wife to know what he was going through, Exeter Crown Court was told. He denies assaulting his wife and causing her actual bodily harm in a series of shouting

Mrs Pryor, who also works as a teacher, said she married Mr Pryor in 1961 but their marriage had been in trouble for several years. They have divorced since the alleged

She said her husband suffered from tinnitus as a result of shooting when he was came on immediately after the younger. "At the end of 1995 he did something totally out of character, We had incidents before but nothing like this it was in our home. I was in the Shirwell, near Barnstaple, called Potent Research company." kitchen preparing a meal and he just came up behind me. held my arms down by my sides, put his mouth over my ear and shouted at me.

"He had his mouth over my ear. He went to the right ear , first and he said something to

to deter hooligans FROM SUSAN BELL

THREE Liverpool football hooligans were were beginthe effect of I'm going to make you suffer like I do, and he ning four-month jail terms vesterday after a French judgeanswered calls to make an example of them to deter Mrs Pryor said she suffered troublemakers from marring

Liverpool

fans jailed

by French

the World Cup next year. The men were convicted of an unprovoked drunken attack on a passer-by before their team's Uefa cup tie in Strasbourg on Tuesday.

attack on the night before a consultation at the North Dev-James Kerr, 32, a sport shop manager; Matthew Godden, 2i, a market trader, and Paul on District Hospital in Roach, 32, a roofer, were sentenced by Judge Aimée John Riddington-Young. ear nose and throat consultant Roehrig at the Strasbourg Correctional Court on Wedexamined Mrs Pryor's ears nesday. The jail terms, which also include four months' susbefore the final assault and found there was only minor pended sentence, came after Nicolas Bessone, the prosecudamage to one ear drum. He said she was suffering from tinnitus when he saw her in tor, said that an example shoul be made of the three men to send a message to December 1996 after the last of English fans planning to visit

France for the World Cup.

"After drinking litres of beer He told the jury: If the mouth was put right over the ear, as Mrs Pryor described, these people felt as if they were and the voice is extremely in a conquered land. It was a loud, although this is a very combination of alcohol and rare cause of tinnitus, I would fanaticism," said M Bessone, who also cited British fighting think it would be enough to cause it. She says the timitus came on immediately after the in Rome this month.

The British fans had at-

tacked their victim as they were walking through Strasbourg before the game, which Liverpool lost 3-0. They hit him with an umbrella, before punching and kicking him, witnesses said.

Six fans spent a night in police custody but were reeased without charge after the pick them out of an identity

Without question, her career has been triumphantly consistent over the years. Yet Dame Kiri Te Kanawa readily admits that one

thing has changed: her attitude to time.

"In Der Rosenkavalier it is so beautifully expressed," she says. "For at night The Marschallin passes through the house and stills all the clocks, wishing she could stop time running. And yet she

knows she cannot; time melts away for her like snow."

For many years now Dame Kiri has worn a Rolex and insists that she would never be without it. Of her treasured gold Lady Datejust she says, "it is very beautiful, very elegant, quite wonderful."

It is most gratifying indeed to hear that in an ever accelerating world, certain things at least remain constant.



"Time I value above all things. It just gets more and more precious."

Church is good for the body as well as the soul

called Patrick Beasley, consul-

tant ear specialist at the Royal

Devon and Exeter Hospital, who said the type of hearing damage Mrs Pryor com-

plained of was not character-istic of noise induced tinnitus.

yesterday. Researchers in the United States say they healthy immune system.

The team led by Harold Keenig interviewed and tested a randomly selected group of 1.727 elderly adults in North Carolina — the heart of America's bible bek. Participants underwent blood tests for substances that indicate the

likely as the rest to have raised levels of IL6, a

people with Aids, Alzheimer's disease and

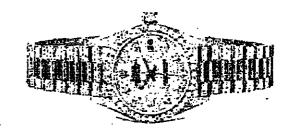
results were found for four of eight other substances tested to

assess the immune system.

Dr. Koenig, from Duke
University Medical Center in Durham. North Carolina, said: "We think there is a link between religious faith, mental bealth and immune function. People who have a strong faith, go to church, and have the support of others involved in the church, are less depressed and less stressed. They are not as anxious as other people, and that has major consequences bemune systems. There's a lot of negative stuff said about religion, but there may be a lot of benefits to it in terms

lished in the October issue nal of Psychiatry in Medicine. Dr Koenig said that another study from the University of California at Berkeley in June showed that churchgoers had a death rate significantly low-

er than average.
But he did not think conviction could make themselves healthier simply by going to church. It was the peace of mind gained



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Railways told to cut delays or face more regulation

THE privatised rail companies have been told that they face tighter regulation improvements to their record

Most of the 25 train operators reported poorer performances this summer than during the previous year. critics that the initial improvements after privatisation were disappearing.

Passengers on more than two-thirds of routes suffered poorer punctuality than a year ago, and half the routes showed increasing numbers of cancellations. The route with the worst performance for punctuality was the West Coast main line run by Richard Branson's Virgin Group.

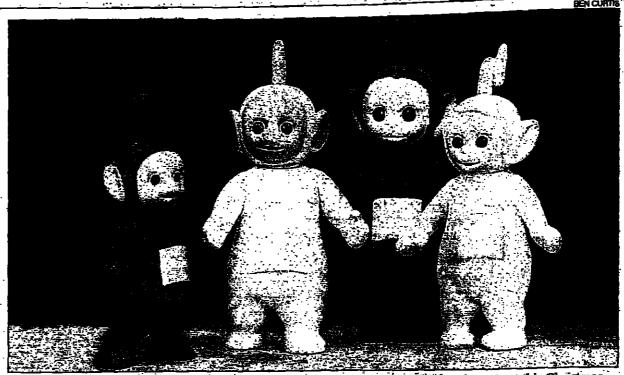
figures and officials said that the rail companies performance would be assessed in detail over the winter before a decision was taken next spring on how to improve services.

John O'Brien, the franchis ing director, said he would keep a close watch on the figures: Obviously, I am disappointed that the improvement we have seen across the board in reliability and punctuality over the last 18 months has not been generally maintained. However, perfor-mance is generally still significantly better than the

benchmarks set in 1994-95." Punctuality on Virgin's Scottish routes fell further behind all other rail services, with one in four trains failing to arrive within ten minutes of schedule. The West Coast line, which Virgin took over in March this year, has traditionally been the worst-performing line in Britain, but serious track and bridge problems during August are blamed for further deterioration in the summer figures. Other companies reporting worsening services included Anglia, Great Western, Connex South Central and Regional Railways North East. Those that improved included Thameslink, from Bedford to Brighton, Cardiff Railways Silverlink, formerly

North London Railways. Rail industry sources say that the worsening of many services during the summer will increase pressure on companies in the winter season, when weather is likely to cause greater problems.

Mike Patterson, secretary of the Central Rail Users' Consultative Committee, the passenger watchdog, said the figures were "very disappointing. Earlier indications were that performance generally was improving, but it now seems as though the effort into achieving that improvement is



Po, Dipsy. Tinky Winky and Laa-Laa, the soft Teletubbies toys many children may not get this Christmas

Festive memo to parents: panic now

THE appeal of Teletubbies, the BBC's furry creatures with screens in their stomachs, has caused the first Christmas toy shortage, with 62 shopping

days left (writes Michael Horsnell). Stores are already rationing sales of Po (recommended price fll), L22-L22 (E12), Dipsy (E13), and Tinky Winky

is put down to the failure of retailers to

Golden Bear Products, the Telfordbased manufacturer of the "hottest toy" of the year, showed a prototype of the soft version at the British Toy and Hobby Trade Fair at Olympia in

It takes six months to get a new toy into production, and it was not until Inly that retailers realised their popularity. Golden Bear said that 700,000 now and Christmas, but that would not





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Impossible to ignore? That'll be the Daewoo.

BMA says 200 hospitals may have to close

By Ian Murray, medical correspondent

HALF of Britain's 400 hospi-

The British Medical Association has submitted the £5 billion programme to the Government, which is shortly to publish a White Paper on the future of the NHS, as the cheapest and least controversial of five options to meet the growing demands on the service. The BMA hopes it will ment that funding the NHS-

requires increased taxation. "The status quo is no longer an option," said James Johnson, chairman of the BMA's consultants' committee. "A lot of the problems we face are becoming intractable. They can only be solved by change."

The proposed plan would be "politically very difficult but events will make rationalisa tion inevitable". Mr Johnson

"Shutting down half the hospitals would be a courageous decision. Now is the only time you could do it when you have a Government with a large majority, more than two years away from an election." Alan Langlands, Chief Executive of the NHS, told a conference of consultants in London yesterday that the Government was looking at the need for more resources for the service. He hinted strongly that patients would not be charged but did not rule out tax rises or rationing to conserve resources.

"I do have some concerns result in exclusions of patients," Mr Langlands said, noting that Australia had abandoned an attempt to charge hospital patients for their keep because the charge was too difficult to collect and meant that many patients were too poor to be admitted.

With the economy growing. he said, the NHS could expect to receive 3 per cent more money annually and the pubiic would be prepared to pay more in taxes to fund it.

CORRECTION

Chiang Jing-guo, referred to in a report (September 25) concerning the death of his brother, was the son of the late President Chiang Kai-shek by

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Ospitals m rave to cloy

All because the Belgians do not like Milk Tray

THE decision is almost enough to recall the Milk Tray man from last month's retirement, and send him swooping from his helicopter one last time, to attack Strasbourg

The European Parliament announced yesterday that the term "milk chocolate" should be out-lawed and sales of the British

lawed and sales of the British product barned across the European Union until it is tested further.

The Strasbourg vote, which could be overturned, was a setback in the campaign to end the EU's 24-year chocolate war. This has putted Belgium, France and other "cocoa ourisis" against British "cocoa purists" against Britain and six other states where makers add cheaper vegetable fats to the product

The European Commission had presented a draft law to lift a bar on sales of the British-style confection in eight EU countries that restrict the word "chocolate" to the 100 per cent cocoa product. But after a heated debate, the Parliament attached stringent conditions to the new proposal.

It voted by 316-112 to delete a

provision that would allow Britain to use the expression "milk chocolate". Victorious Belgian chocolate fundamentalists suggested that the product should be renamed something like "chocolate with milk and non-cocoa vegetable fats". The Parliament backed by a **Charles Bremner**

witnesses a

sweet victory

for continental

cocoa purists

strong majority a requirement that the label on the British-style product must state that it contains up to 5 per cent of non-cocoa vegetable fat. It effectively blocked exports by insisting that the EU monitor the 5 per cent limit technology for reliable testing has not yet been developed.

In Britain, John Redwood, Shadow Trade Secretary, posed

outside the House of Commons with a lkg bar of Dairy Milk to throw his support behind British chocolate. He called the vote by MEPs a "meddlesome restriction on a flourishing trade" and urged the Government to fight the mea-

Caroline Jackson, a Conservative MEP, denounced the votes as "a major setback for British con-sumers" and "a bad day for Milk Tray". "They want us to abolish the name 'milk chocolate' but nobody is offering an alternative."

safety, not what makes a chocolate bar really chocolate."

A spokesman for the Government said that the milk chocolate amendment would probably be rejected at the second reading. Strasbourg officials said it seemed likely that the battle would end within months with a compromise law that would merely require prominent labelling of the 5 perc ent non-cocoa content of Britishstyle chocolate sold in the EU.

Europe's two-speed chocolate regime started when Britain and Ireland joined the community in 1973. They were allowed to contin-ue describing their "adulterated" product as chocolate but not to export it, Denmark, Portugal, Austria, Finland and Sweden have since joined the EU with similar exemptions. The chocolate purists are Belgium, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, The Netherlands, Luxembourg and Greece.

Behind the front lines of the

chocolate war are the competing interests of the big manufacturers, such as Cadbury-Schweppes, and the cocca-producing countries of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific, who fear a go-ahead for cocoa substitutes in all EU choco-late would lead manufacturers to cut their use of the expensive bean. They estimate this could cost them 100,000 tonnes of cocoa imports



Mr Redwood championing milk chocolate yesterday. He attacked "meddlesome restriction"

British is best bar none, says test panel

TELLING British chocolate increasingly hard. A blind tasting has shown that even chocoholics are easily confused about the distinctive qualities of their

favourite bars.

The suggestion that British makers should change the name of their product because of the vegetable fat content found little favour with participants in our improvised taste test. But the results showed one thing: that British chocolate-eaters like their

bars as they are. My tasting pitted Cadbury's Dairy Milk (minimum 20 per cent milk solids, minimum 20 per cent cocoa solids, includes vegetable fat) and Bournville (mininum 34 per cent cocoa solids) against the Swiss Lindt Excel-lence bars ("70 per cent cocoa solids"), Caley's Marching Choc-olate (British but 70 per cent cocoa) and Green & Black's Organic Dark Chocolate (made with 70 per cent cocoa beans").

For milk chocolate, the Dairy Milk proved much more popular than Lindt's among tasters in our office. Not a single person re-ferred to the Lindt bar having more chocolate flavour.

The result was not as clear-cut for plain chocolate bars. Here Lindt came back strongly, while Green and Black's also found more favour than Bournville, but Caley's Marching Chocolate walked into first place.

Rivals paid activists to halt new Sainsbury's

RIVAL stores secretly provided funds for environmental campaigners to undermine an attempt by Sainsbury's to build a superstore in north London. A confidential document shows that John Lewis, Safeway and Boots contributed to the £10,000 cost of lawyers employed by the Stop the Store Alliance to argue its case at a two-week public inquiry into the new super-

last year, announced in Januthat it had rejected Sainsbury's application for a superstore, petrol station and 400 parking spaces accessed by a major new road. The application had the backing of Islington council.

The document, a briefing note written by the alliance last year, states: "The Stop the Store Alliance evidence was funded (secretly) by John Lewis. Safeway and Boots, all

stores with a presence in the

Nag's Head shopping centre." A Sainsbury's spokesman said: "We are disappointed. that these companies felt that they had to take this action covertly. The considerable number of local people in Holloway who were in support of our scheme have thus been denied the chance to shop in a modern supermarket."

The inquiry, held in April that it funded the alliance's counsel at the public inquiry. A spokesman for John Lewis, the parent company of Waitrose, which has a store at the Nag's Head, admitted making a "modest contribution" to the legal costs.

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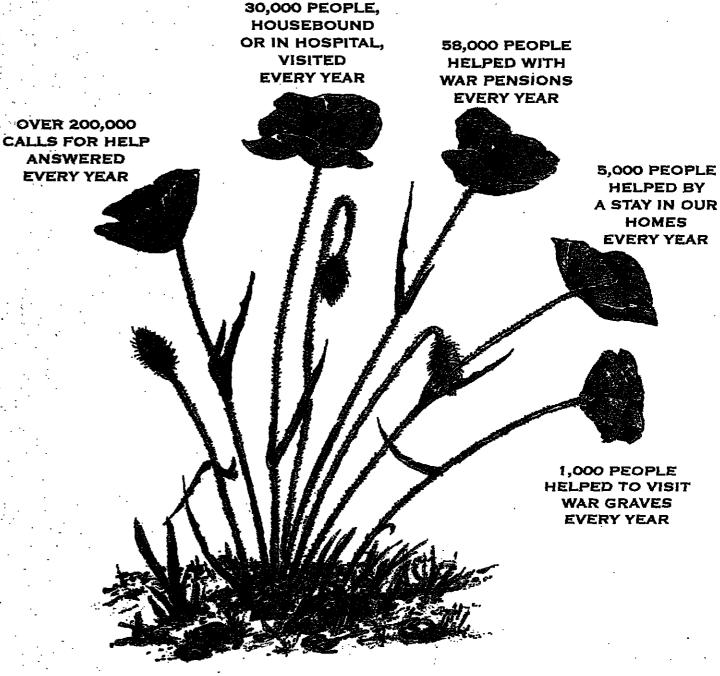
In addition to contributions for a barrister, his clerk and a solicitor, funds were also provided to pay consultants whose studies were presented as evidence at the public inquiry. A Safeway spokesman said his company had funded such research.

Alan Hedley, of Landmark, Sainsbury's development partners in the project, said: Such payments by vested interests take important matters out of the hands of town planners and put them in the hands of reat-a-mob."

Nick Jack, a member of the alliance, said its backers were concerned at possible loss of were also "angry that they had invested heavily in branches at the Nag's Head which, according to Islington's planning guidelines; was supposed to be protected from out-ofcentre developments".

Last week Sainsbury's dropped its appeal against the outcome of the public inquiry. saying that it was working on a second plan for Holloway. Mr Hedley said a new planning application might be

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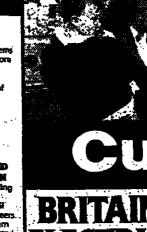
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Rector's wife alerted bishop to affairs

THE Rector of Benliech's wife was the mystery third informant who went to his bishop to complain of his affairs with women parishioners, an ecclesiastical court in Wales was

told yesterday. Gwenda Williams, accompanied by her two eldest sons. went to see the Right Rev Barry Morgan, the Bishop of Bangor, to tell him that her husband was an adulterer who was having sexual rela-tions with Iris Green and Anne Williams.

The secret visit emerged on the fourth day of the Church in Wales's Provincial Court hearing into the alleged "scandalous behaviour" of the Rev Clifford Williams, 49, rector of Benllech, in Anglesey, North

Mr Williams was taken line by line through handwritten notes and messages left on Mrs Green's answering machine that were alleged to reveal an intimate relationship between the cleric and the middle-aged music teacher.

SONY



Enid Williams yesterday: was the subject of gossip

From the witness box, he repeatedly denied that he had "lied through his teeth" about those notes and tapes to his bishop, and was continuing to lie to the court about the nature of his relationships with the two women.

Mr Williams, 49, a father of three, is facing four charges of giving "just cause for scandal

affair with Mrs Green, 56, who formed a church choir. and Mrs Anne Williams, a

Lord Thomas, QC, counsel for the bishop, suggested to Mr Williams that it was his wife who went to the bishop in September 1995 to complain about her husband having fairs with the two women. ashamed of her sexual taste She told him about notes from for much younger men and Mrs Green's diary that she

had found in his possession. Mr Williams insisted his wife subsequently retracted the statement. He said she had gone to the bishop because she was fed up with the gossip circulating. He told the court that he could not remember describing her be-haviour to the bishop as hysterical. Lord Thomas asked: "Is your wife still with you now as man and wife?"

Entries in Mrs Green's diaries were read out to the court in which she refers to "C". Mr Williams denied that he was "C". One entry read: "I am very tense. I know I need some

Yes," Mr Williams replied.

good sex apart from a release from C's attentions."

in another she wrote: "What is so worrying is the evident unbalance of C's mind. He doesn't seem to want me. I don't seem to exist to him and yet he is excessively jealous."
Mr. Williams said he had been trying to counsel Mrs Green because she was

Anne Williams and Enid Williams - with whom he is also alleged to have had a relationship — later denied, from the wimess box, any suggestion that fley had an improper relationship with the rector. Instead they painted a portrait of Mrs Green as an emotionally unstable woman who became fixated on Mr Williams.

Anne Williams described Mrs Green as a highly strung troublemaker who went on to spread gossip around the par-ish that Mr Williams was conducting as affair with Enid

The hearing continues.



Angela Wardill, II, the youngest player in the 25th anniversary Monopoly tournament at the Savoy Hotel

Schoolboy tycoon sweeps the board

TOP Monopoly players were left questioning their money-making skills after a teenage public schoolboy beat them all to become Champion of Champions in the game's 25th anniversary tournament, James Broomfield. 16, swept the board in the grand final at

the Savoy Hotel, London. Waddington's, the game's British manufacturer, gathered a host of past champions for the Simply the Best

"I only came here for a joke, because I thought it would be amusing, and my Dad was playing too," said the winner, a pupil at Westminster School, London I didn't play terrifically. I'm

putting it all down to luck and a few

wise decisions. I haven't played Mo-nopoly for years." His father, John Broomfield, 55, a property developer from Marylebone, played in the first championships in 1972, when he was the unofficial winner. "I'm thrilled to bits that my son has emulated the past successes of his father and is following family traditions," he said. (PA News)

Young golfer says lawyers ruined career

By PAUL WILKINSON

A TALENTED young golfer was thrown out of his club and blackballed by others in the area after he and his father were accused of cheating, a

court was told yesterday. William Luther, who was 14 at the time, played off a three handicap and hoped to pursue a career in the game. He and his father, also called William, strongly denied having entered a bogus store on their. The pair had played their card but South Shields Golf round with a scorer after their Club decided that they were guilty of "conduct unbecoming

a gentleman". The Luthers are suing their solicitors, claiming that they lost their chance of clearing their names when Hannay and Hannay, of South Tyneside, failed to notify them of an appeal hearing. The saying that they told the

Luthers by telephone. Jonathan Carr, for the Luthers, told Newcastle County Court: "They have been unable to obtain membership of any other golf clubs in the area. The expression is 'blackballed'.

William Luther inr was a very promising golfer who career in golf. Because he has

been blackballed and without any membership of any golf club he is unable to qualify for a handicap and unable to pursue a career as a profes-

In August 1991 Mr Luther snr. 50, and his son, now aged 20, were accused by club officials of submitting a card showing a birdie four instead of a par five on the sixth hole. opponents failed to turn up.

Mr Luther, who had been a

member for ten years, called in Hannays when they were expelled. He told the court: "We didn't cheat: I don't know what the prize was but it would be something like a Tshirt. A sweep of about £7 was about the most arryone could

William Lather jnr, who is now training to be a sales manager, told the court: "My ambition in life was to become a golfer. I was only 14 but this really broke my heart."

Mark Dowie, who was the scorer, admitted that he had made a mistake. He said: "I didn't see any cheating. I was tired at the time. I must have lost my concentration." The hearing continues.

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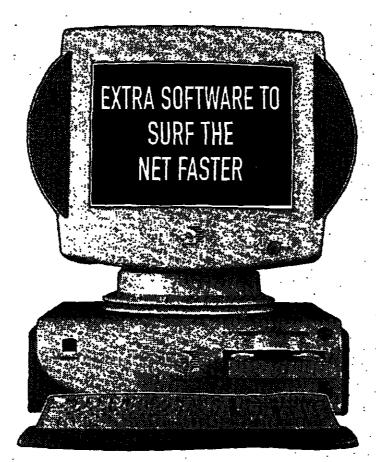
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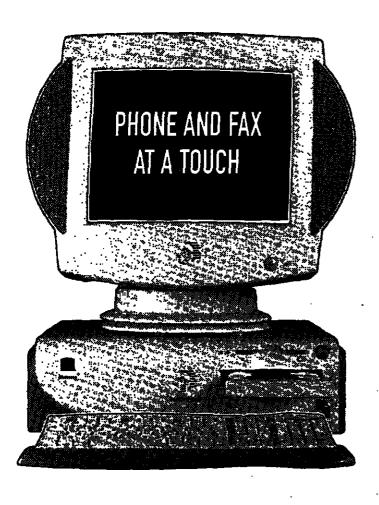


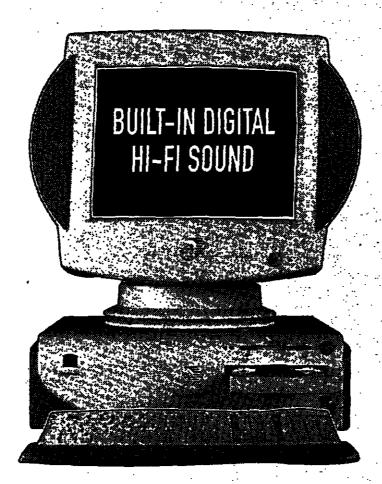
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Scientist poin

Indian tribe is allowed to kill whales again

A NATIVE Indian tribe has been given permission to resume whaling more than 70 years after its members made their last catch. The Makah tribe of Washington State will take to the seas in autumn next year in traditional handcarved cedar cances to inter-

cept and kill grey whales. Scott Smullen, a spokesman for the United States delegation at the International Whaling Commission (IWC), said yesterday: "All of their traditional rituals and ceremonies for whaling, including their hand carved canoes, will be continued. The only thing that will change is the harvesting method, which has become more humane.'

The Makah hired a weapons expert who has developed a high-powered rifle to replace hand-held harpoons.

tribe should be allowed to kill four grey whales a year. The animals are not considered to he an endangered species: the stock to be hunted by the Makah number some 21.000. Britain was among the na-

tions that voted in favour, but other countries and conservationists fear that the decisionwill open the floodgates to more whaling. At least 13 Canadian tribes, blood rela-tions to the Makah, who also abandoned hunts at the turn of the century when stocks collapsed, have indicated they

also want to resume hunting Patricia Forkan of the Humane Society said yesterday: There is now a potential for many, many other tribes who claim a whaling heritage to resume.

Makah tribal leaders say



Tourists make contact with a grey whale off Mexico. They will be shot as they migrate past Washington State

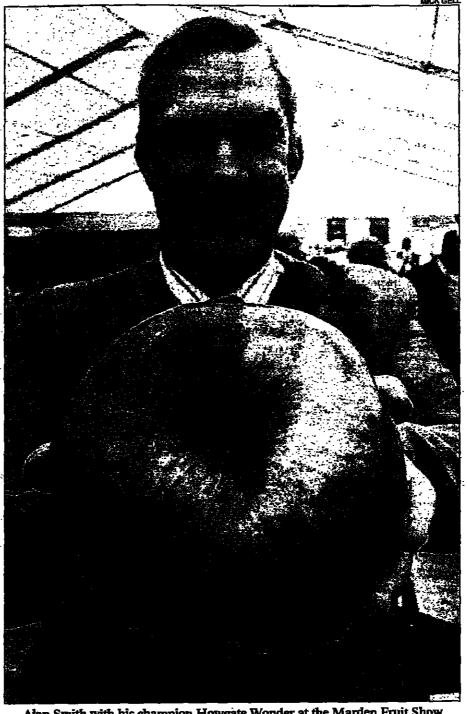
aco, decided yesterday that the reassert a cultural identity and to cement tribal ties, which will help to cut alcholism and crime among young Indians. Those opposed to the move believe it breaks commission rules on so-called aboriginal whaling. The Makah, unlike the Invit of the Arctic, do not need whale meat to survive and some critics fear the whales may end up on Tokyo

> Conservationists also claim that the needs of the modernday Makah are no different to villagers in parts of Japan who are blocked from resuming whaling on the ground that they are commercial rather than tribal whalers.

"These are the same whales: that Americans and tourists pet from boats-off California and Mexico. They will now be migrating up past Washing-ton State to be blasted," Ms Forkan said.

Mr Smullen said: The IWC has indicated its acceptance of the US position that the Makah tribe's cultural and subsistence needs are consistent with those historically recognised by the commis-

Concern over the Makah decision has been eased by a reduction, from 140 to 120, in the number of grey whales that the Yupik and Chukchi peoples of Siberia are allowed



Alan Smith with his champion Howgate Wonder at the Marden Fruit Show

3lb lloz apple is world's biggest

By MICHAEL HORNSBY

A FARMER in Kent has grown the world's biggest apple, with a girth of 214 in and a weight of 3lb lloz, The monster Howgate Wonder comfortably exceeds the dimensions of the current champion, grown in Oregon, in the United States, in 1994. It weighed a mere 3lb 4oz.

Alan Smith, of West Pike Fish Farm at Ladding ford, near Maidstone, said yesterday he was "awestruck" by the size of the fruit, which took the top prize in the heaviest pple class at the annual Marden Fruit Show at Detling, also in Kent

The apple is the one bright spot in what has been a pretty grim scason," he said. "We had very early blossom and then the frost came and killed much of the fruit on the trees. We have been able to pick no more than 15 per cent of a normal crop.

"But the apples that did survive were of unusually large size, probably because of the longer growing season, the reasonable weather since the frosts, and the fact that the trees were carrying fewer apples than normal.

The Howgate Wonder is a cross between a Blenheim Orange and a Newton Wonder and is grown mainly as an exhibition and garden



Buster loses his grip on TV fame

BUSTER the nut-cracking crab has blown his chance o television stadrom. A planned appearance on a wildlife show was scrapped after he lost a pincer trying to escape from

his tank. The 8lb crustacean, denizen of the Sea Life Centre in Weston-super-Mare, was due to be filmed for The Really Wild Show crushing walnuts

in his powerful claws.
But the BBC Wildlife Unit has had to recruit an understudy after Buster's accident. Staff at the Sea Life Centre say the pincer will take a year or

two to grow back. Neil Tredwin, a curator, said: "Buster still has one good claw to feed himself. but television cannot make a star of a one-armed crab. We are

very disappointed." The smaller stand-in. known as Tyson, has been recruited from Weymouth. The show's producers have ngged up a machine to measure the power of a crab's pincers, which are hundreds of times stronger than the

human hand. Researchers from The Really Wild Show visited Buster last week at Weston, Somerset, and were impressed by his nut-cracking routine. Staff believe Buster, an edible crab (Cancer pagurus), is about 20 years old. His body is lft wide and in happier days he measured 3ft between pincer tips.

But before filming Buster

managed to climb out of the tank in which he was auditioned. He fell several feet to the floor, snapping off the pincer. Alison Watt of the Sea Life Centre, said: "This happens in the wild where crabs bump into rocks and so on." The pincer would regenerate. but only after the crab's chance of fame was long gone.

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Scientist points finger at dinosaur ancestry of birds Nigel Hawkes on a revolutionary evolutionary theory that goes out on a limb

BIRDS cannot be the modern descendants of dinosaurs, one of the world's leading experts in avian

evolution has asserted. The claim gives a new twist to an argument which had appeared to be settled. Not so, says Alan Feduccia of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: there are insurmountable problems with the idea

that ducks and dinosaurs are

The evidence, gathered by Dr Feduccia's colleague Anne Burke,

creatures and what is known about shows that similarities between the

"fingers" that make up birds' wings and the fingers of dinosaurs are superficial and the two evolved from an older common ancestor.

Dr Burke examined early limb development in ostriches, chickens, cormorants, alligators and turtles. In Science magazine, she and Dr Feduccia report that there are important differences between these

dinosaur limbs. "We know that dinosaurs devel-

oped 'hands' with digits one, two and three, which are the same as the thumb, index, and middle fingers of humans, because digits four and five remain as tiny bumps or vestiges on early dinosaur skeletons," says Dr Feduccia. "Apparently, dinosaurs developed a very

specialised, almost unique, hand for grasping and raking. Our studies of bird embryos, however, show that only digits two, three and four develop, and this creates a new problem. How do you derive a bird 'hand' with digits two, three and four from a dinosaur hand that has only digits one, two and three? The

answer is that you can't." The similarity in the bone struc-

ture that makes dinosaurs and birds look the same is therefore the result of convergent evolution, in which both groups developed similar body designs for walking upright and began to resemble each other.

This interpretation is strength-ened, in Dr Feduccia's opinion, by the fact that the superficially birdlike dinosaurs appeared between 30 million and 80 million years after

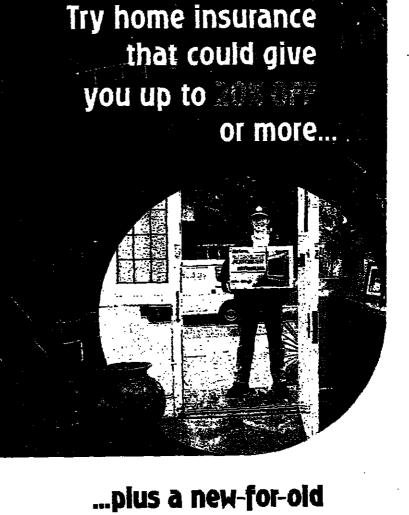
Archaeopteryx, a Jurassic fossil bird. In addition, he says, "flesheating dinosaurs thought to have given rise to birds were large, Earthbound creatures with heavy balancing tails and short forelimbs." In a commentary in Science. Dr

Richard Hinchliffe of the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, says that the supporters of a dinosaur origin for birds will not like the new evidence. But it is, he says, "the most important barrier to belief in the dinosaur-origin orthodoxy".

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Gypsy family clutches at paper hopes

THREE generations of the Vodraska family of Czech gypsies are saving to come to Britain, like thousands of others all over Prague.

Helena Vodraska, the grandmother, has compiled a dossier of papers about injustices inflicted by Czechs on the despised Romany minority. from skinhead beatings -tolerated by police - to job discrimination and loss of citizenship.
- People in England seem

nice, you can see just by looking at Princess Diana," said Mrs Vodraska, a buxom grandmother sitting by the television in her clean flat in an ugly concrete block where 80 per cent of the inhabitants are Gypsies. Their families were consigned to buildings in the 1950s when Stalinists confiscated their wagons and

slaughtered their horses. When Mrs Vodraska arrives in Britain with her 23year-old daughter, a single mother, and her four-year-old grandson, they will be an advance party entering what is seen as the new land of opportunity, replacing CanaAsylum seekers

spurred by hate and drawn by kindness talk

to **Dominic** Kennedy in Prague

join her when they raise the

Mrs Vodraska is saving from the family budget of £140 a month, of which £56 goes on rent. "I am going to ask for asylum," she said. "I have got documents, proof."

She produced a bundle of copies of Romano, a Gypsy newspaper, including articles describing assaults by skinheads on Romanies, and a research paper packed with statistics showing that Gypsies are a downtrodden minority in the Czech republic: horders to Czechs without cent in some areas and 70 per to normal schools.

"I am not after the money, I just want to be able to live decently," she said. She was recently declined work in a Prague hotel because it refused to employ foreigners -"No Gypsies, no Polacks, no Russians" — even though Mrs Vodraska indignantly points out that she is the holder of a Czech passport. She dreams of finding a job

and flat in Britain and letting her incoming relatives stay there until they find their feet, but knows little of the country and her English is limited to "hello" and "goodbye".

The research paper which Mrs Vodraska intends to flourish before police at Heathrow has been compiled by the Roma Civic Institute, a civil rights organisation in Prague, whose liberal Czech supporters would be dismayed that the document is being used as a charter for Gypsies to escape the country.

The institute champions the 100,000 Romanies who have been denied citizenship and told to return to their parents' wants them to stay and to join ship scheme. With a £2,000 visas. Six relatives hope to cent of Gypsy children are the struggle. People like Ar-



Helena Vodraska, right, with her daughter and four-year-old grandson: "I just want to live decently"

chie Haase, a Canadian who has come to Prague to help the Gypsy cause by encouraging them to use e-mail to raise political awareness of their grievances, has the mistortune of watching the Gypsies vote with their feet by clam-bering aboard the daily tourist coaches that take only 15 hours to reach Dover, charging less than £60 one-way.

He admits that much of the pickpocketing in Prague is organised by a single extended family of Gypsies, but laments the prejudice of Czechs: "Any time any [Romanyl goes on the tram, the impression is that they are pickpockets."

Susan Hamilton, who runs the Prince of Wales business leaders' forum in Prague, is about to launch a £10,000 contribution via the British



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Embassy, she hopes to turn 30 young Gypsies into self-emplayed business people.

At 32, turaj Ondo is too old for such philanthropy and, anyway, would rather emigrate than continue to educate his eight-year-old son and vately to overcome the dis-

at school. Children who fail tests are sent to "low-intelligence schools" but the system fails to acknowledge that many Gypsy parents speak Czech poorly or are illiterate,

so most of the pupils in the special schools are Romanies.

Hijacked cargo ship resumes voyage

NEWS IN BRIEF

A ship hijacked by some of her crew, who claimed they were owed back pay, sailed from Plymouth yesterday. Five members of the crew of the car transporter Oshea Express were being flown home. The ship was heading for the Mediterranean from Germany when the skipper was forced to change course on Monday last week.

Beard costs job

Tim Jones, 40, of Clevedon, Somerset, has been turned down for a £180-a-week storeroom job at his local Safeway supermarket because he has a beard. A company spokes-woman said: "The rules do not allow for the unorthodox

Boy, 2, drowns

The body of Adrian Cooper. his home in Packmoor, Staffordshire, where he drowned after chasing his family's dog.
A neighbour said Adrian's
mother pulled him from the
pool, believed to be less than two metres deep.

Victims sell up

Czech, ranging from strangers spitting at their baby son

in his pram to being beaten by skinheads in Wenceslas

Square and even, he says,

being shot in the leg. Outside a central train sta-

tion, a group of Romanian Gypsies were displaying their versatility by saying in a range of tourist languages:

"My child is hungry and cold, my children are sick, we sleep

on the bench." Even their

babies have learnt to stretch

scorned by Czech commuters,

had yet to hear about the opportunities of claiming asy-

lum across the Channel. They

would probably never believe

there was a land where people.

give Gypsies food, clothes,

medicine, hear, shelter, educa-

This huddle of nomads.

out their hands.

A house that the owners had been prepared to sell for £1,000 because of persistent vandalism went for £6,750 at auction, Paul and Rachel Bowes suffered more than 30 burglaries in four years at their two-bedroom home in Halton Moor, Leeds.

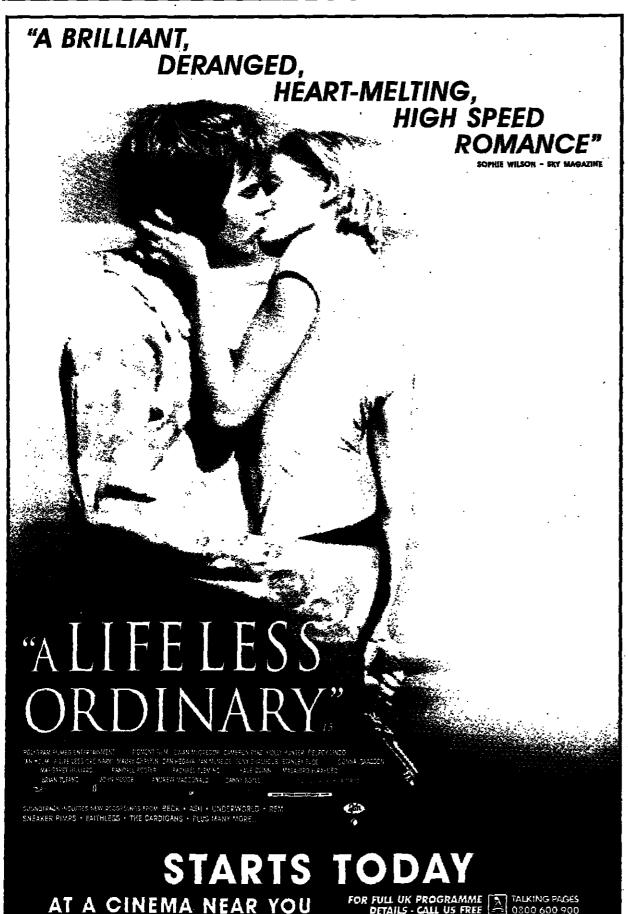
Rape questions

A man aged 40 was being questioned yesterday about the rape of a 13-year-old girl picked up in a black cab in central London. She had travelled from Southampton to visit her pop idol, Brian Harvey of the group East 17, in March.

avar'can be

Curtains for show

The British musical Maddie is to close on November 8, six weeks after opening in the West End of London to a lukewarm reaction from critics. tors had put in £150,000 to stage the show, about a would-





12% Populare Barry Cache

Whitehall staff get flexible friends

Valerie Elliott on a scheme to save taxpayers

millions by giving civil servants credit cards

GORDON BROWN has decided to credit civil servants old system, which required with common sense in a scheme to cut unnecessary paperwork and save millions of pounds a year.

The government tradition has always been for staff to waste time on countless order forms, estimates and phone calls before being authorised to buy even the most inexpensive office materials. The process can inflate the cost of a 98p padlock to more than £70.

Now the officials are to be given Visa cards and trusted to get on with the job. The credit card scheme

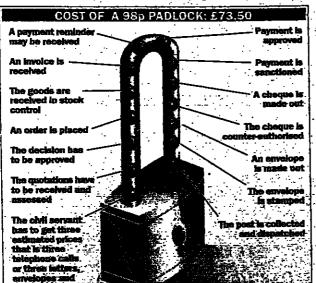
means that Mr Brown, the Chancellor, could have a new wastepaper basket for about

order could be placed and. several stages of approval before a cheque could be made out and signed.

The scheme was announced

yesterday by Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster-General, who believes that it will save £60 million a year. The Treasury was forced to take action after the National Audit Office identified so much red tape that many items were costing: more than 50 times their list price. Mr Robinson is confi-dent that the credit cards will end the scandal of the high

administration costs. There are plenty of safe-



guards in the system to deal with any civil servant who might prefer to fly off to the Bahamas or go on a shopping spree with a government Visa card. Most of the cards will have a £500 limit, and anyone who is found to have used one for personal purchases will

face the sack. There will be no Air Miles. or any other such benefit, to be taken advantage of by officials spending government money. A Treasury rule forbids any personal gain.
The decision to end the

Whitehall paperchase will not just save money but will give staff more time to check that they are buying the right goods at the best price. Yesterday, Mr Robinson said than the idea was not to make staff. redundant, but to improve the efficiency of purchasing sections in every government department and agency. The credit card system will also help to fulfil Labour's manifesto promise to ensure prompt payment to government

suppliers.
Mr Robinson said: "Buying essential small items has long been a cause of frustration and waste for the Government. In the old system orders were made and paid for through a time-consuming and expen-sive system of individual orders. This could cost £70 or more even though the goods involved cost less.

That is an unacceptable waste of public money when modern charge cards offer a



I'm afraid we'll need that in triplicate: an archive view of the outdated office ways that Gordon Brown hopes to change

ings, more than £60 million.

Ken Bignall, Managing Di-rector of Visa UK, said he believed that the estimate was modest and that many more millions of taxpayers' money could be saved, particularly if cards were extended to other public services, such as the National Health Service. He said that in America about 250,000 cards had been issued to government officials and he expected the number to reach between 50,000 and 100,000 in this country.

HOW OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN WASTING THEIR TIME

The National Audit Office recommended the issue of credit cards to civil servants after uncovering the following procedure for purchasing inexpensive items.

□ Requisitioner identifies requirement.

obtains three quotes and completes requisi-tion form (time taken 60 minutes). Delegated budget-holder reviews re-

quirement and gives approval (10 minutes). Commodity manager reviews and endorses the requirement (10 minutes). Local purchase officer receives request,

registers details, checks three quotations, completes order form, matches paperwork when received and informs requisitioner of arrival (90 minutes).

☐ Accounts officer receives invoice, inputs on to accounting system, returns payment and requests approval form (10 minutes).

□ Delegated budget-holder authorises payment request (10 minutes).

Accounts officer completes cheque form

and dispatches payment (10 minutes). Total time spent: 3 hours and 20 minutes

Return of **Camelot** papers ordered

By RICHARD FORD

MAGAZINE was ordered by the Court of Appeal yesterday to return leaked documents disclosing 40 per cent bonuses for directors of the National

Lottery operator, Camelot. Camelot wanted to discover who passed the documents to Marketing Week, which published a report in May about the bonuses. Centaur Communications Ltd, the publishers, had offered to destroy the documents. The Court of Appeal also heard a plea that there should be no action pending an application to appeal to the House of Lords.

The disclosure of the bonus es had brought demands for the lottery to be removed from Camelot and prompted an angry intervention by Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary.

Lord Justice Schiemann, sitting with Lord Justice Thorpe and Lord Justice Mummery. dismissed an appeal by the

publishing company against an order requiring disclosure of the papers. He said that the source had leaked the information unlawfully. Camelot had a substantial interest in protecting its integrity.

"An employee who has proved untrustworthy in one regard may be untrustworthy in a different respect and reveal the name of, say, a public figure who has won a huge lottery prize."

The law did not enable the

press to protect the anonymity of its sources in all circumstances, he said.

Foreign child 'given away' can be adopted

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A CHILDLESS couple yesterday won the right to adopt a child who had been brought from Pakistan for them to bring up as their own son.

The boy, 8, faced deportation after the couple entered into a secret arrangement with relatives in Pakistan, who brought him to England but did not disclose that he was to

turned a High Court ruling refusing the couple an adoption order. The High Court had said that allowing the adoption would "condone an entry" that was gained without the full facts being given to the immigration authorities.

But the Appeal Court judges

granted the adoption order after being told that the family boy to the childless couple

case involved an arrangement between "a fertile and an infertile couple". The boy's natural father, 43, was a cousin of the 45-year-old man who wanted to adopt the boy. In 1988 the London couple had been told by doctors they could never have children.

The judge said that the gifting of a child was a religious custom recognised in many parts of the world. "It respect that custom, founded as it is upon a humane response to a sad deprivation."

The couple from England went to stay in Pakistan with the boy for the first 33 months of his life, and then his father and mother applied in Pakistan for entry for a two-week holiday in England with their children. They did not disclose to the immigration authorities or that they would be staying

with the London couple. When they arrived in England in the boy was put into a local school, his name deleted from his mother's passport, and the husband and wife applied to adopt him. His natural parents returned to Pakistan and he has not seen them since.

The adoption application went to the High Court where there was a two-day hearing wife, Official Solicitor and a Home Office representative.

of immigration rules of children for adoption, Mr Justice Singer in the High Court had been wrong in deciding that to grant an adoption order, with all its benefits for the child. would be condoning an entry, the permission for which was



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J. W. Jan

'Jews have no place here'

The Hamas leader tells Ross Dunn in Gaza City he is ready for a short truce, but his followers may not agree

SHEIKH Ahmed Yassin, leader of Hamas, the militant Islamic group, has a one-state solution for the Palestinian problem. The one state, of course, would be an Islamic one, encompassing all that is

Jews, he said, do not belong in the Muslim Middle East and had no right to return to this land. "They have nothing here," he added. "If we accept that everybody has the right to go and take over a place, that means we are going to put the whole world upside down.

We were Arab citizens before the Jews were here and even after they came. They have been out of this place for 2.000 years.

He could accept living peacefully with Jews only if they were minority subjects in an Islamic state, where they would be granted freedom of worship. But the recently freed founder and supreme spiritual leader of Hamas has no

illusions that be established in the near future. So, in the short term at least, he is prepared to consider a ceasefire in the war against Israel. During an inter-

truce, if Hamas wanted the whole of Israel. "God did not create the universe in one day," he replied, in the manner of a Muslim wise man whose advice is sought by many Palestinian followers. His immediate goals are therefore the same as those of Yassir Arafat, the President of

the Palestinian Authority: sovereignty over the West Bank. the Gaza Strip and east "For a period of time in the history of the region, yes [I could accept this position)," he

said. But he emphasised that a Palestinian state could not live peacefully alongside Israel for ever. Eventually, the conflict would flare again with even greater intensity. Sheikh Yassin, oi, was hold-

ng court in his humble home n the Zaitoun quarter of, murder last year by Israeli Gaza. Dirt roads lead to the single-storey house, where he ble for organising suicide mis-

sits in a room surrounded by well-wishers, family and friends, All strain to hear the sheikh, whose answers come in squeaks. Even conversation seems to be a hard task for his

high, croaking voice.

Paralysed since boyhood,
his throne is a wheelchair. His head is covered by a white shawl and his legs by a rainbow-coloured blanket.

His chin rests on his chest, the limbs having been rendered immobile. Only his face gives real expression to his words. The eyes sparkle, sug-gesting a brilliance and humour springing from an alert mind, which earned him a reputation as an expert on islamic law.

His invalid condition, perhaps deceptively, suggests a prising because, after all, he is the leader of a movement that iustifies suicide bombings against Israeli civilians: Sheikh Yassin refuses to

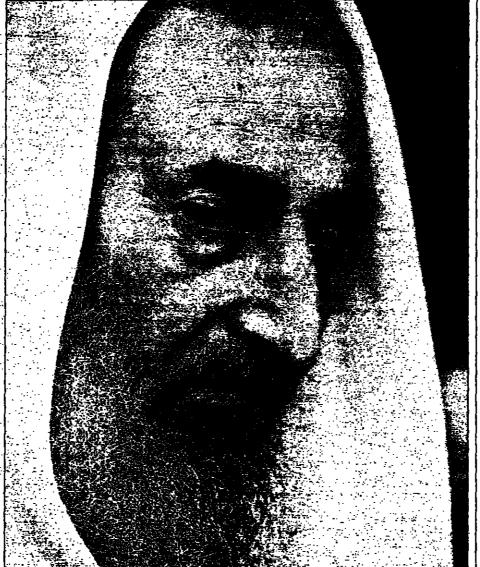
consider the attacks as soicide 6 Israelis missions because that would were the be against Muslim beliefs. Suiones who cide bombers, as they are known started the regarded as killing of martyrs many Palestincivilians 9 ians. These are

not suicide operations because suicide means escaping from life, and those who do it hate life," he said. "But the martyr wants life for [himself] after death and life for his people after his martyrdom." Why attack civilians,

women and children? "In our beliefs, we should not attack civilians. We are hurt if we see a civilian get killed. But the Israeli enemies, they were the ones who started killing civilians from the be-

ginning and preventing our people from getting even a piece of bread," he replied. "As long as they continue to do this, we have the right to deal in the same way." The best known of the

Hamas military men was Yihye Ayyash, a master bombmaker, who was nicknamed "The Engineer". Before his



حكدامن رالإمل

Sheikh Yassin: the Hamas founder and supreme spiritual leader can accept living peacefully with Jews, but only if they are minority subjects in an Islamic state

and wounded more than 300. Suicide bombings continued after the death of Ayyash. His replacement as a military

chief was said to be Muhammad Deif, who is believed to be hiding somewhere in the

When asked if Deif should

Sheikh Yassin can lead only as far as his youthful followers will allow him. His rise, and that of the organisation, coincided with the start of the intifada in 1987, the Palestinian uprising against Israeli military rule in the West Bank

and Gaza Strip.
At the time, his followers

6 I never thought of being a leader. This is something great from God ?

end his attacks, the sheikh sought out the sheikh as a replied: "Muhammad, he un- man who could give spiritual derstands Islam like me and he sees that he is going to defend himself and his people if the Israelis continue to attack or be aggressive against Palestinian civilians. The sheikh's comments reflect the interdependence of Hamas's military and political wings.

justification for their violent resistance campaign. "I never thought of being an Islamic leader and I am not thinking of it now. This is something great from God," he said. His statement is not a display of false modesty. Before the intifada, his natural inclina-

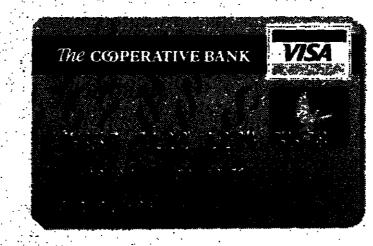
ians first to concentrate on Islamic studies. But the urging of his followers at the start of the uprising convinced him to take a more active role.

It was not the first time that he had bowed to pressure from his contemporaries. At the age of 16, he competed with other Palestinian vouths on the Gaza beachfront to see who could stand on their head the longest. He fell, damaging his spine and he has been

wheelchair-bound ever since. During his time in prison, Sheikh Yassin sometimes condemned suicide bombings. But the attacks continued. Now that he is free to speak, will his followers listen to him? Israelis are hoping that the answer will not come in the form of another suicidebomb blast, shattering the uneasy calm now prevailing in the Middle East.

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WORLD IN BRIEF

France bars tighter Iraq sanctions

New York: Britain and the United States failed yesterday in their attempt to tighten sanctions on Irao for hampering the work of United Nations weapons inspectors (James Bone writes).

The Gulf War allies abandoned their move to get the 15nation Security Council to impose a travel ban on senior Iraqi officials in the face of opposition from France and Russia, which are both seek ing future oil business from President Saddam Hussein.

Military cut

Hanoi: Vietnam has cut the size of its standing army by two-thirds to about half a million since 1989, when its forces withdrew from neighbouring Cambodia, the statecontrolled media said. (AP)

Life sentence

Chicago: Noah Robinson, the Rev Jesse Jackson's half brother, was jailed for life for laundering drug profits for a street gang and hiring its members to kill former business partners. (AP)

Strike bites

Athens: A 24-hour nationwide general strike in protest at government austerity policies brought Greece to a standstill, with serious disruption to public transport, banking and hospitals. (AP)

Dostum picked

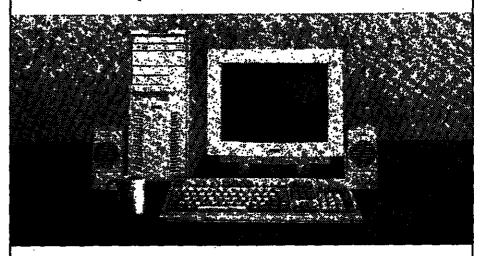
Islamabad: Leaders of the anti-Taleban coalition, at a three hour meeting, chose Rashid Dostum, the Uzbek warlord, to lead the forces lighting the hardline Islamic militia for control of Afghanistan. (AP)

Daughters saved

Tehran: Police raided a house and freed four girls held captive by their father for seven years. The girls had managed to clip a note about their plight to a cat and sent it out into the street. (AFP)

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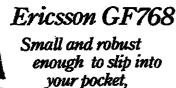
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Zeroual's zombies cast vote

Anthony Loyd in Algiers finds fear and disillusion in a nation robbed of its hopes

TORTURE leaves marks on a man's face that time does little to erase. It is 42 years since French interrogators in Algiers' infamous Serkadji prison strapped wires to the guerrilla's iongue and genitals and started cranking the generator handle, alternately forcing his head into a tub of water, pulling him out each time as he lost consciousness. Half a lifetime on and you can see it all: although only 60 years old now, the lines are like ravines across his skin and there is something broken in his eyes.

"It was actually a passage of initiation for me," he says, "my entry to the liberating army that eventually threw the French out of Algeria." In the present climate of lear in Algeria, where society appears so penetrated by either government or islamic informers, he wants to remain anonymous.

"I was arrested in 1955, and tortured over a period of six joining the ALN. (became an officer after two years, fighting the French in the mountains for the freedom of our nation until our victory in 1962."

The ALN, the National Lib-

eration Army, was the guerrilla movement whose leaders came to power after the French departure, an old guard who have held total power in the state up to now. Yesterday's elections in Algeria, the last stage in the socalled democratisation process, should have been a highlight in the veteran's life.

a personal reward for his

suffering in a past era. "Freedom, both for our nation and society, was all I fought for," he says. "Most of my comrades were killed in action with the French, though a lot died at the hands of fellow Algerians later. We did terrible things, and terrible things were done to us. Nobody took prisoners and castration and torture were the normal fate for those captured. Yet we were united by solidarity, brotherhood and the desire to



A policeman patrolling the streets of the Casbah in Algiers yesterday as people voted in municipal polis. The security presence was high but voter turnout low in the latest phase of Algeria's democratisation process

American engineering degree. he lives in a state where illiteracy is 61 per cent among the young. Yet he shares with the youth of the capital complete disillusionment with the administration, his erstwhile companions, and the future of

"I have watched all we fought for turn into the 'zombification' of our nation. The hope for our people now is less than it was under the

Like many Algerians, possi-bly the majority, he accuses the Government of President Zeroual of complicity in the latest outrages.

The Government aids this present conflict. The GIA [Armed Islamic Group] terror-ists are a weapon used by the authorities to justify the absolute power of the army here, as well as discrediting the opposition Islamic parties. They do not perpetrate the massacres themselves, but they do little to stop them and use them as a reason to oppress any voice of

He is an outsider. A multi- the people in power now are lingual philosopher with an personal acquaintances. On a personal level. I still believe in what I fought for against the French. On a political level, if I had known my efforts would lead Algeria to the state it is in today I would never have

The man is not alone, even among officers still in the army, to cast doubt on the Government's agenda. Yesterday's elections were a token: limited to municipal control. Power is firmly in the hands of President Zeroual. The poor. turnout at the polls reflected a deep dissatisfaction with a political process which most foreign journalists. One officer, who had just Algerians believe is windowdressing for the international

In no other zone of conflict



President Zeroual leaving a voting booth in Algiers yesterday after casting his ballot

have I seen people so afraid to er. This fear is not eased by the constant presence of armed plainclothes "minders" who shadow almost every move of

left the army on account of the severity of wounds in an ambush, said he was not even sure who his men were fighting on operations.

"Sometimes we fought an element who were definitely one type of GIA, sometimes we fought people who were another type of GIA. They all had different agendas and the only thing they usually shared was a brand of Islam and hatred for the Government. Sometimes we fought people of no particular definition at all it was never concrete: neither their agenda nor ours.

"You could get to the bottom of it all and find there is nothing there. Who knows? These elections are nothing, a cruel joke. Everyone with any opportunity leaves as soon as possible. It is not that our get worse immediately, only that it will never change."

putting profits vefore nour post-

RUSSIA'S first post-Communist generation has rejected popular Soviet-cra that more tecnagers would prefer to work as gangsters and prostitutes than cosmonants

A survey of 1,000 high school students revealed that the majority will reas soldiers, engineers and teachers. Instead the find-ings, released by the VIsIOM polling centre, showed that most young people wanted work that would pay well. The 16-to-17-year-olds questioned said the most respected profession was accountantly, followed by law, banking and business.

Out of a list of 36 once the mainstay of Soviet industry, came only 32nd, while only I per cent said that they regarded a career in the military as prestigious. The job described as "killer, racketeer and mafiosi" came 18th, alongside sports. Prostitution came 24th equal with teaching and skilled labour.

Certainly, outside School Number 591 in central Moscow, the findings did not provoke any surprise yesterday after-noon. Pupils laughed when asked what they thought of a career as a cosmonaut, once the dream of every Soviet child, but which ranked last in the opinion poll. "I suppose when you are little you might want to be a cosmonaut," said Nikita, 14.

"But who wants to hang around in space for months on end. It is a waste of time."

☐ Mir repairs: Cosmonauts on the space station Mir reconnected two solar panels damaged when an out-of-control cargo vessel rammed the Spektr control said (AFP)

Ailing Papon taken for hospital tests

Bordeaux: The trial of Maurice Papon for crimes against humanity in France during the Second World War was suspended until Monday after he was taken to hospital with bronchitis. Judge Jean-Louis Castagnede said yesterday.

The judge said doctors told him that the former minister. 87, who had a triple heart bypass last year, was undergo-ing tests, and his condition would not allow him to be in court "either today or tomorrow". (Reuters)

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Ecstatic crowds welcome victor to Brazzaville

HYSTERICAL with joy, an elderly woman fell to the muddy ground, shaking flowers at the feet of Congo's rebel general, as crowds poured onto Brazzaville's devastated streets yesterday to celebrate his arrival back after five months of fighting.

The Congo's presidential palace has been wrecked and ournt by looters and troops but, having been the country's head of state for 13 years, General Denis Sassou-Nguesso's own palatial compound was more than adequate for his return to the country's leadership.

He will be sworn in as President for the second time tomorrow, having taken with a gun what he failed to win through the ballot box in 1992, when he gained only 17 per cent of the vote.

Yesterday his support in Brazzaville appeared genuinely enthusiastic as several thousand civilians who had crept back to the city from the countryside, where they had been sheltering from bombs and shells, ignored torrential rain to cheer his arrival.

The former colonial power France, announced in Paris that looting continued in the oil and economic capital of Pointe Noire, where General

A former dictator has regained by the gun what he lost by the ballot,

reported to be holding 16 foreign nationals — French. Belgian and Russian citizens — on suspicion of helping Pascal Lissouba, the deposed President, during the fourmonth conflict.

writes Sam Kiley

General Sassou-Nguesso. 54, a former Marxist who ruled as a military dictator from 1979 to 1991, said that he would soon form a "broadbased transitional governand immediately ment" opened dialogue with representatives of several political parties. He refused to say how long the transition would last. stating only that this would be decided once the government took office.

"We fought the enemy and we have won, the criminals fled. Now we have to get Brazzaville back on its feet, we must restore brotherhood, we must work together and listen to each other. Congo must told thousands of supporters.

Attempts to disarm his Cobra militia before elections scheduled for July sparked the civil war which has bitterly divided Congo-Brazzaville. General Sassou-Nguesso's northern Bambochi people lined up against the Bambembe of Mr Lissouba and the Bakongo supporting Bernard Kolelas, his Prime Minister. The last suffered severe casualties when Angolan troops came to General Sassou-Nguesso's aid and crushed Congolese government forces in Brazzaville and Pointe

General Sassou-Nguesso's forces still depend on the Angolans who yesterday se-cured the capital for his arrival and have been fighting beside his Cobra militia in the south of the country. This will be the biggest testing ground for his new government. Resistance remains strong just 60 miles south of Brazzaville.

On Wednesday, 19 out of 20 men from a Cobra unit known as "Mobile One" were ambushed and killed on the main route south. Soon afterwards, two insurgents struck 20 miles from the city centre and attempted to blow up two vehicles captured by Cobras. Men under a Captain Theo



Denis Sassou-Nguesso waving to supporters on his return to Brazzaville yesterday as Congo's leader. He is to be sworn in tomorrow

who has adopted the nom de guerre "Lucifer" tried to pursue the insurgents. But tall elephant grass obscured the path. The incident demonstrated how easy it will be for Mr Lissouba's troops to destabilise the regime of their

long-standing foe. Mr Lissouba, who defeated General Sassou-Nguesso in Congo's first multiparty election in 1992, has gone into exile in Burkina Faso but has yet to concede defeat. "We will clear them all out.

There will be no prisoners. We Lucifer. General Sassou-Nguesso said: "Our first tasks will be reconstruction. Through that we will achieve reconciliation. There is so much devastation that we will need carpenters, builders and electricians from all sides to

help rebuild the country." The authorities in the neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo, the former Zaire, have prohibited river traffic from Kinshasa to its near neighbour, Brazzaville, for security reasons". Mwenze Kongolo, the Interior Minister, has ordered that the ban will be imposed indefinitely, the officials said, citing an inter-

Although the border formed the Congo River between the two countries has been officially closed since President Kabila seized power in Kinshasa in May, motor boats tomorrow. and barges had regularly carried food and goods to Brazzaville. General Sassou-Nguesso

President Kabila. The crackdown on river traffic stranded on the Kinsha-

has yet to be recognised by

sa side of the river several journalists and photographers who had been hoping to cover General Sassou-Neuesso's official return to power

Kinshasa: Twelve people were killed and many injured in the crash of a northeastbound train from Matadi in the Democratic Republic of Congo to the capital, Kinshasa, state radio reported. (AFP)

Life in the Asian smog 'like smoking 600 a day'

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN JAKARTA

THE DENSE smog over Singapore and many parts of Indonesia has reached record levels and is now so severe that it is equivalent to smoking 600 cigarettes a day.

As visibility yesterday dropped to less than 15 yards in many areas of Sumatra and Kalimantan, and little more in Singapore, health officials said that they had recorded pollution levels of more than

6,000mg per cubic metre. Dr Keith Bentley, a World Health Organisation consul-tant in Jakarta, said: "If you use a yardstick of ten cigarettes per 100mg, a pollution level of 6,000 is equivalent to smoking 600 cigarettes a day."

It is worse now because most of the fires are being caused by burning peat, which emits more noxious fumes, and damp wood, which gives off more smoke.

Dr Bentley said that while The Petronas Towers in asthmatics, the elderly and the hazy Kuala Lumpur

COULD YOU

very young would experience short-term problems, it was unlikely anyone would suffer permanent health damage although having said that. we have never really seen the readings this high before, so we do not quite know what the

> The thick smoke yesterday also prevented Singaporean authorities from scanning the island's worst oil spill, which was caused by a collision between two tankers eight days ago. The 25,000 tonnes of leaked oil have spread north to Malaysia and south to Indonesia.

> Only five people have reportedly died from hazerelated ailments, but the smog is being blamed for a riverboat collision in Kalimantan this week in which 28 people died, and for the Garuda Airbus crash last month in which all 234 people on board were



FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

A "SMOKING system" that uses a hand-held box fitted over the end of a cigarette to eliminate smoke and ash has been developed by the largest tobacco company in

Philip Morris, which makes such brands as Benson & Hedges and Virginia Slims, spent \$200 million (£123 miltion) and five years on secret research to come up with a 40z "Puff Activated Lighter" that looks like a cigarette holder stuck on the wrong end of the

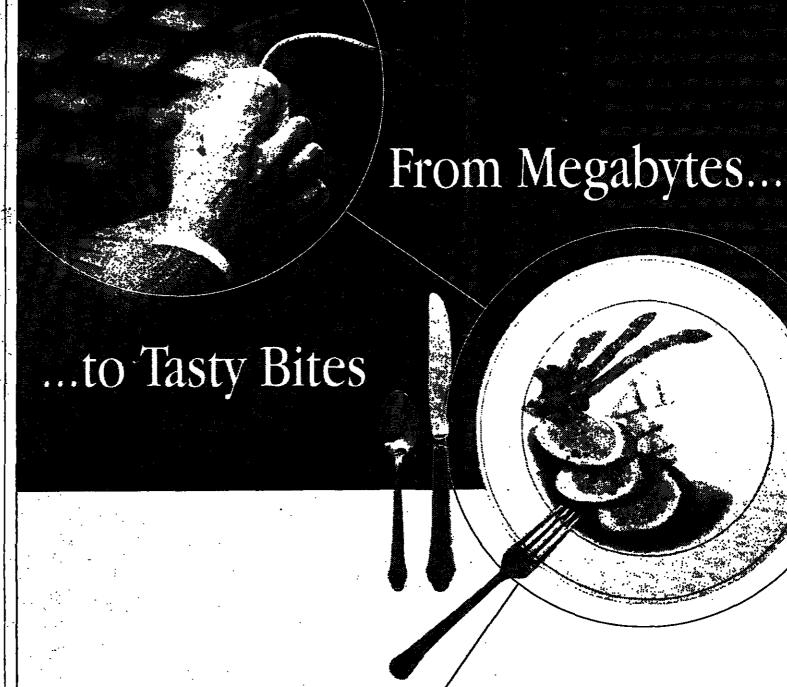
cigarette.

The battery-powered box contains a microchip and eight heating blades that ignite the cigarette only when the smoker takes a puff, and then incinerates the smoke and residue with a miniature catalytic converter in the same way as a self-cleaning oven. To use the machine, the smoker must buy special, slightly shorter cigarettes.

The new product is the latest attempt by tobacco giants to meet public concern about the adverse effects of secondhand smoke" and is targeted at customers who try to restrict their smoking at home or in a car.

It eliminates the formes from the burning end of the cigarette, which account for 90 per cent of second-hand smoke, but the smoker will still inhale and exhale smoke from the other end.

Although the "smoke-in-abox" system has none of the glamour sometimes associated with cigarette smoking, company officials hope the new device may some day become as ubiquitous as the



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BY MICHAEL BINYON IN EDINBÜRCH

THE Commonwealth has grown a Fringe. Well used to the anties of avantgarde artists and publicity-hungry showmen, Edinburgh's latest festival has brought the Sierra Leone Women's Forum. The Women's Support Group for the Narriva Swamp (Trinidad), workshops of climate change. and conferences on planned parenthood. Fifty-one heads of state have been sweeping through empty streets in red Jag-uars and earnest moods. the Fringe has been a raucous caucus of dogooders and self-helpers.

Opening the Commonwealth for the first time to the army of lobbyists who have honed their noisy messages at UN conferences, Tony Blair has brought the Scouts. the Red Cross, aid agencies, the Prince's Trust and dozens of human rights groups to the staid assembly rooms of George Street. Prime ministers, Presidents and important people in suits are being escorted past gruesome displays of amputation instruments to show what

landmines can do. The last big summit in Edinburgh was the Euro-pean Union in 1992. This event is more colourful and disruptive. Armed police have closed the city centre and every hotel has airport-style friskers. So far, apart from rallies denouncing the Nigerian junta, there has been no

Queen's role as Commonwealth head questioned

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT, IN EDINBURGH

THE Queen's continuing role as head of the Commonwealth was unexpectedly thrown into question last night as Tony Blair tried to heal wounds over her visit to India last

Chief Emeka Anyaoku, the Commonwealth's Secretary-General, provoked waves of alarm when he inadvertently suggested that the British monarchy might not always head the Commonwealth. At a press conference on the eve of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Edin-burgh, Chief Anyaoku fuelled speculation about the Oueen's future role by saying: "The

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A bicycle shop next to the conference centre advertises

its attitude to the four-day Commonwealth meeting

at the moment, the British monarch." Acceptance of that fact would be one of the key criteria to be a member of the Commonwealth, said the chief. But the words "at the moment" prompted a series of questions which begged further clarification.

Chief Anyaoku insisted that the words held no significance, and that his remarks had been misinterpreted to suggest that the Queen's future as head of the Com-monwealth was in doubt. The Queen is the head of the Commonwealth and remains so. I have no information whatsoever that this is about to end. I think her reign is

tion to that effect. I did say that one of the criteria for acceptance is this arrangement whereby the British monarch is the symbolic head of the Commonwealth." But he provoked further speculation when he refused to accept that this meant for all time. His failure to clarify more fully his remarks threatened to overshadow the opening of the Commonwealth meeting today, when the Queen is

going to go on for some time."

Asked whether there was any suggestion that the British

monarchy might not always

head the Commonwealth, he

said: "I have made no sugges-

mony for the first time.

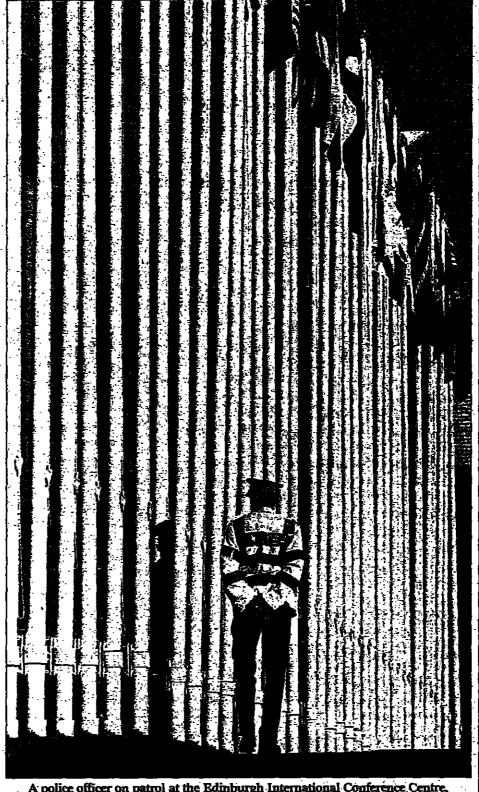
Buckingham Palace did little to stop continuing speculation when a spokesman insisted: "It is a matter entirely for the Commonwealth. It seems as if it was a slip of the tongue, and that is where the matter begins and ends."

speaking at the opening cere-

It was then decided to cancel a briefing on the Commonwealth conference which was to have been held by Palace

The gaffe will do little to help Mr Blair's efforts to heal wounds over the Queen's visit to India last week. But yesterday the Prime Minister tried to smooth any ruffled feathers over that trip when he spoke to Inder Gujral, the Indian Prime Minister, on the phone for several minutes.

Leading article, page 21 Photograph, page 24



A police officer on patrol at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre, where the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting opens today

Italy joins Europe's * no-border travel club

side has gainst was of Greet

FROM RICHARD OWEN

ITALY'S media yesterday trumpeted the country's imminent membership of the Schengen agreement on free movement across European frontiers as a sign of trust in its ability to police its borders.

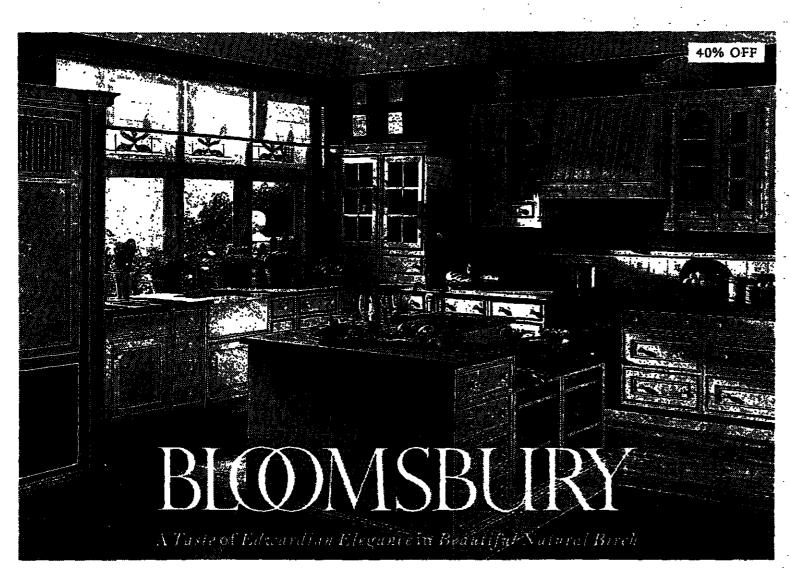
But it acknowledged that move on Sunday would arouse fears of an uncon-trolled influx into Western Europe of illegal immigrants and criminals from the Mediterranean, North Africa and Eastern Europe as frontier controls are relaxed.

Britain and Ireland are not part of the Schengen accord, named after the Luxembourg town where it was agreed in 1985. The accord came into force two years ago in Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands, Luxembourg, France, Portugal and Spain.
After Italy on Sunday, they will be joined by Austria at the end of the year, and Greece at the end of 1998. Denmark, Finland and Sweden are signatories, but will not become full members until 2000.

"Going to and from Western Europe — except Britain and Ireland — will be like taking a domestic flight from Sunday. said La Stampa. Although Britain has vowed to maintain frontier vigilance to combat cross-border crime, there are fears that immigration control will become more difficult, a lesson brought home this week by the arrival at Dover of hundreds of Slovak Gypsies seeking asylum.
Italy's sea and land controls

will also be relaxed, and phased out by March. Slovenia and Switzerland are seeking bilateral frontier agreements with Italy to make them Schengen members in all but

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Child sex inquiry at Euro crèche

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

THE European Commission yesterday gave Belgian investigators permission to search the premises of a Brussels creche attended by the children of EU civil servants after allegations that paedophile acts had been committed on infants in its care.

The Clovis creche, which occupies a Commission building in the heart of the Brussels EU district, has been under police investigation since June, when parents reported that their children had suffered apparent sexual abuse.

On Wednesday, the Belgian-authorities asked the Commission for authority to enter the creche, which is covered by the "extra territorial", quasi-dip-lomatic status enjoyed by EU institutions, a spokesman said. Officials were dismayed that the Belgian inquiry, headed by an investigating magistrate, had taken more than three months to apply for the search. They had only to pick up the phone," an official said. The delay in the search request had apparently been because of the bureaucratic path that requires intervention by the Belgian Foreign Ministry and then the Belgian Embassy to the EU. The crèche management declined

to comment.
The Commission is indignant over French press suggestions that it had delayed the investigation. Jacques Santer, President of the Commission, wanted clarity over the case as quickly as possible, his spokesman said.

The investigation has focused on two employees of the crèche, which is run under contract by Regio, an Italian education company. The pair are no longer employed there. The case began after a child psychiatrist advised a couple that their three-year-old child was showing signs of sexual abuse. They approached the police. Other complaints

followed. Parents of the 250 children at the creche, one of three for EU staff, were given reassurances by the Commission last week. It asked them to observe extreme discretion in view of the delicacy of the affair.

The search request arrived on the same day as the Belgian parliament issued a fresh report charging the police with gross inefficiency and incompetence in their criminal investigations, Since the scandal over paedophile morders a year ago. Belgian police have been under orders to act with the unmost speed on reports of the sexual abuse of children.

'Suicide doctor' to offer organs

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

JACK KEVORKIAN, Ameri- dissues. Dr Jorge Reyes, a assisted suicide, stirred up more controversy yesterday with his plan to donate organs harvested from people who die with his help.

end the suffering of a patient and get organs back to save lives," he said. Geoffrey Fieger, his lawyer, said that he would soon make livers and kidneys available through his office.

Transplant surgeons said the plan would probably be impossible, as Dr Keyorkian uses carbon monoxide or lethal injections to help people to die, and this damages the

University of Pittsburgh Medical Centre, said that the plan was "totally unrealistic and almost fantastic".

ith his help.

Lawyers said that it would "Here's a case where we can be illegal for Dr Kevorkian to remove the organs himself, as he says he will do, as he lacks a licence to practise medicine.

Dr Kevorkian, who has acknowledged assisting in 50 suicides, said that a third of those whom he was currently advising had agreed to donate their organs. He said that if US authorities did not allow him to give the organs for transplant, he would export





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NATIONWIDE SERVICE

DELEGATES at the United Nations Climate Conference, dismayed at America's retreat from its promises to curb greenhouse gas emissions, failed yesterday to make the necessary breakthrough for a smooth environmental summit in Kyoto, Japan, in December.

Outside the conference hall in Bonn, Greenpeace, the environmentalist group, mocked the failure of the delegates with a statue of a dinosaur assembled from old car parts, oil barrels and scrap metal. The dinosaurs died out because of climate change and they could not adapt. Japan and the United States are running dinosaur policies," Bill Hare, the Greenpeace climate policy director, said.

Yet the shortcomings of the climate conference, if any-thing, are outstripped by the failure of Greenpeace, which is starting to wither as an international protest group. Greenpeace was known for its spectacular actions, such as a campaign against the deep sea burial of the Brent Spar oil rig. No environmental protest, if seemed could be complete without a Greenpeace supporter chained to a threatened piece of landscape.

Now the group is in rapid decline, even in Germany, the heart of the European ecological protest movement.

In America, which as the largest carbon-dioxide producer in the world should be a prime target for lobbyists, Greenpeace has shrunk. The



Greenpeace's dinosaur attends the conference

450,000 this year and contributions dropped over the same period from \$65 million to \$23 million. That in turn has made a big dent in the global funding of Greenpeace international Around the world, membership has dropped by 40 per cent.

As for the reasons that seem to be driving the Greenpeace crisis, stubbornly high unemployment in Germany leading to a shift of priorities must be among them: 60 per cent of Germans rated protection of nature as the most pressing political task in 1990. By 1994, 46 per cent shared that view. Last year barely 28 per cent ranked the environment as a top priority. It rates as num-ber 12 in the long catalogue of

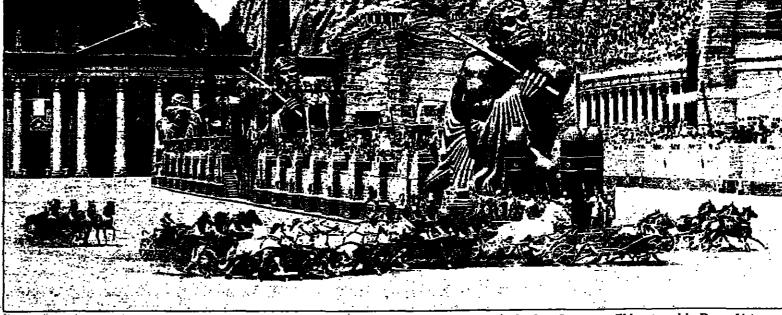
German worries. Thilo Bode, chief executive of Greenpeace International, says: "As soon as state subsi-

environmental activism is limited to a few verbal nods, a hold rubbish and the use of the energy-saving program in

their washing machine."

The media, perhaps sensing the change in national mood, are paying less attention to the organisation. The annual press conference of the Am-sterdam-based organisation was thinly attended this summer and even Herr Bolde admits that the questions from journalists were critical and

The fact is that govern-ments, as the UN Climate Conference is showing, have taken over some of the rhetoric of Greenpeace, even if they fall well short of the group's goals, and Greenpeace now has to compete with, rather than confront, the political and industrial Establishment.



Spectacular chariot races, like the ones run for Ben-Hur, the classic MGM film starring Charlton Heston, will be staged in Roma Vetus

Tourists to be offered replica Rome

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

WITH the hard-pressed centre of coaches and traffic fumes, a Milanbased business consortium has come up with the obvious answer a near-life-size copy of ancient Rome in the Umbrian countryside, where tourists can tramp round a duplicate Forum real thing. They will even be able to stay overnight and witness a massacre of Christians by lions by way of evening entertainment - courtesy of

The consortium has bought 360 hectares at Castel Giorgio on the shores of Lake Bolsena near Orvieto, 50 miles north of Rome, at a cost of £10 million. It is negotiating to buy a further 230 hectares for the theme park, which is to be called Roma Vetus - Latin for Old Rome. The organisers said they hoped to have the park ready in time for the millennium, when the real Rome is braced for an influx of up to 40 million visitors and pilgrims. Visitors will see chariot races and gladiatorial contests and "the massacre of Christians by wild beasts".

The classical buildings on the site. including the Colosseum, the Forum, the Pantheon and the Baths of

downscaled at three-quarters of their size. Lighting will be by Roman-style torches, and plastic forks and knives will be banned in the restaurants. No cars or lorries will be allowed in Roma Vetus, with carts and litters providing the only transport. Park staff will have to wear togas made only with natural

Leading article, page 21

number of members has tailen dies for specialize traines are from 1.8 million in 1991 to threatened, Germans forget

to offerois Europe berates US on global warming plan

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

THE American proposal for reducing global warming gastorrent of criticism and faint praise, with the European Union leading the charge.

response to the global problems of climate change," said Ritt Bjerregaard, the EU Environment Commissioner.

President Clinton's plan aims to reduce America's output of greenhouse gases to 1990 levels by 2008 to 2012: Mrs Bjerregaard said that America was breaking its commitment at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit to achieve the

goal by 2000. The EU, setting an ambitious target for the Kyoto climate conference in December, wants these emissions cut in the industrialised the 1990 level by 2010. Developing countries, including China, Brazil and India, have thrown their weight behind

Angela Merkel, the German Environment Minister, said the US plan was "disappointing and insufficient. Britain offered the mildest European criticism, John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, saying that the plan did not go far enough.

Letters, page 21

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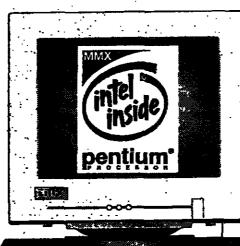
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Left: Long black pinstripe jacket, £620, and matching slimline trousers, £230 both by

Strenesse, 6f Sloane Street SW1. Tel: 0171-259 5001. Large silver torque by Van Peterson,

£275, 194-196 Walton Street, SW3. Tel: 0171-584 1101 Top right: Single-breasted black

Regent Street W1. Tel: 0171-734 1234, Cream lace shirt, £34.99 by Oasis. Tel: 01865 881986.





Street W1. Tel: 0171-629 6903 Bottom right: Navy and white pinstripe concealed fastening jacket and matching wide trousers (sold as a suit), £1,350, by Gucci, 33 Old Bond Street W1. Tel: 0171-629 2716. Black satin boots by Patrick Cox, £170, 8 Symons Street SW3, Tel: 0171-Photographer: LUCY FITTER; Stylist, Nicola Goldie; Flair: Cim Mahony for Shipton, Leighton & 730 6504 Far right: Brown pinstripe, double-breasted jacket; £265. Long wrap matching skirt, Lowe; Make-up: Jochen Fuchs; Model: Sara-Li at Models 1



£135. Brown boob-tube, £35, all by Whistles, 12-14 St Christopher's Place W1. Tel: 0171-487 4484. Grey stillettos with ankle strap, £230, by Gucci (details as before). Silver bean clip earlings, £110, by Van Peterson (details as before)

Style Editor Grace Bradberry on pinstripe's perennial masculine appeal

Nicole Farhi Alexander McQueen Ozwald Boateng John Smedley

Tonight at 9.00pm on

omenico Dolce has said he cannot do without it. Jean Paul Gaultier and Alexander McQueen just can't leave it alone. Pinstripe, perhaps the most conservative

fabric ever invented, is the stuff of designers' fantasies.

A well-tailored pinstripe suit — spare, lean and flattering — represents a rare meeting of of the catwalk and working women. While the vertical lines provide designers with some graphic excitement, they also trick the eye into slim-ming the figure — that's what most of us look for in a suit.

The perfect pinstripe will have a hard edge, but will also skim the body in all the right places, suggesting the female form hidden beneath the faux

masculine tailoring.
This kind of "girls-will-be boys" theme was kicked off by Yves Saint Laurent in the 1970s. The ambiguity is famously captured in Helmut Newton's 1975 photograph of a model, one hand in the trouser pocket, the other holding a cigarette, standing in a poorly lit Parisian street. The trouser suit, wide-legged, double-breasted, has a bankerchief in the top pocket, but a soft silk blouse with a bow neck underneath. Cutting edge designers do not do "blouses" these days, but the idea is the same.

e can thank Tom Ford at Gucci for Nearly two years ago, his pinstripes — narrow cut, uncompromisingly chic caught the eye of fashion editors, and of his rivals. Other tashions have been and gone, but the pinstripe has staying power. Not only is it one of this winter's staples but it's back again in the spring so any purchase can be categorised as "an investment"

- two words that can excuse almost any credit-card sin. On the catwalk, pinstripes

came in a bewildering variety of shapes. The Belgian designer Ann Demeulemeester showed mannish flat-front, slouch trousers with loose, broad-shouldered singlebreasted jackets. Gaultier's jackets — vast affairs with padded shoulders so wide they collapsed sideways — were teamed with wide-legged pants. McQueen for Givenchy went lean and mean, with sharp shoulders, pointed lapels and a slim fit over the

hips. Fine gold pinstripes provided a gangster edge. Doice equally fashionable. Skirts come long and split, cheonggrandfather look with lowslung, flat-front turnups, worn with a crisp white shirt and just a hint of black camisole

showing through When it comes to buying office wear, however, you have more straightforward choices. First, skirt or trousersam style, or short and split for a Forties look. How short depends on the state of your legs: micro-mini or just above the knee are the options.

This season's trousers come in three basic cuts: long and wide-legged, slouch or slimlegged. Jackets can be little,

nipped-in affairs, long, coat-like numbers, some of which can also be worn as dresses, or double-breasted. Jackets with concealed fastenings are the last word in understated chic. If you can bear it, a pair of

spike heeled boots or shoes will define the aggro-chic appeal of this winter's pinstripe. But be warned: you may have

Shall buya magazine or shall treat myself to Vogue?



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war of over the over the ospeak

War of words over the right to speak wrong

Jason Cowley reports on a forthright new call for a French-style language tsar

hen James Kelman won the 1994 Booker Prize many critics were dismayed. Literature gives permanence to language and his novel, How Late It Was, How Late, was not only, in the view of one judge, "deeply inaccessible", it was written entirely in Glaswegian vernacular, a violent, idiomatic language scorning the conventions of so-called standard English.

There was, of course, a political subtext to much of the outrage, finding an echo in current unease over what Jean Aitchison. Rupert Murdoch Professor of Language and Communications and a former Reith lecturer, has called the "hypothesis of linguistic equality" — the notion that all languages and all dialects are equally valid; that there are no fixed rules and no pre-eminent centre of

Kelman cannily acknowledged this when he defended, in his acceptance speech, his right to speak in his own voice. "As soon as you enter school you are informed that your culture and your language are inferior. My culture and my language have the right to exist and no one has

the authority to dis-Kelman may approve of the emereence of alternative verbal idioms, such as black English. Scots and street English, what Arthur Miller calls "emergency speech", but traditional gramtressed at the way language is being distorted and rules broken. Professor John Honey whose new book, Language is Power. offers a trenchant critique of a liberal orthodoxy that opposes the teaching of standard English

Académie Française, where they say non and grammar in renewed his call for the appointment of a academy, so what? Its influence on the rest of language tsar to uphold standards.

His proposed model would operate in a similar way to the Academie Française, created in 1634 to refine and watch over the French language. He envisages an English academy comprising leading lexicographers and academics such as Robert Burchfield, identities expressed in language, could sucformer chief editor of the Oxford English Dictionary and Professor Malcolm Bradbury. It would regulate the English language. offering guidance on correct usage.
Professor Honey is confident that "ordinary

people" would benefit from having "an authority based not on an individual's irrational likes and dislikes but on the genuine consensus of educated opinion". While flattered to be considered as a

possible language commissar, Dr Burchfield s hostile to a language academy. "I don't think it would work," he says. "You cannot hold a language like a prisoner of war; language is constantly unstable. The English are too rebellious in their aritude to

language: they will never conform."

Dr Burchfield feels that the Academie Française is not a success. He mocks its attempts to prohibit the absorption of foreign words and phrases into French and its imperious disregard of the common will. "A couple of years ago the Académie tried to abolish the circumilex accent, but no one took

secretary of the Academie Française, supports the creation of an English academy. The Academie has 40 members, comprising philosophers, theologians, statesmen and academics. It sets the standards of good not only in France but in all Francophone countries.

The academie, according to Druon, "contin-ually revises our Dictionnaire, by accepting or rejecting words newly introduced; by updating definitions, recording new mean-ings and indicating the register of language. It also issues cautions, warnings and judgments. We do our best to induce a sense of sin in those who maltreat the French language."

Do we need such an agency of proscription in this country? In 1712 Ignathan Swift unsuccessfully proposed a national academy for "correcting improving and ascertaining the English torgue". More recently, organisations such as the Queen's English Society and the Society for Pure English have seized on errors of grammar and pronunciation in an attempt to maintain standards.

Professor David Crystal, grammarian and author of English As a Global Language, dispar-ages Professor Honey and his supportlanguage academy would be a total waste of time," he says. "If there was evidence anywhere in the world that academies did any good in protecting languages, then one might support the far too purist and the spirit of an age where language is bound up with notions of identity and self-expression."

He adds: "Even if England did have an

the world would be minimal. People like Professor Honey seem to make no concession to the globalisation of English. Only a model that not only recognised the need for intelligibility, and thus the need for standards, but also the place for variety of ceed. Language cannot be controlled."

A nthony Burgess said something similar in his witty survey of spoken English. A Mouthful of Air. Languages change, he says, and we cannot stop them changing, nor can we determine the modes in which they shall change, though he concedes that questions of intelligibility are relevant. "It is not even possible to legislate for a language, to say what is right and what

"If it is wrong to say you was, then the educated men of the 18th century were wrong. If it is sluttish to drop one's aitches, then Elizabeth I was a slut. What we regard as errors are often merely survivals from an earlier form of the language."

He is surely right. Languages are made by the people for the people. While the stern prescriptions of Professor Honey are, in many ways, admirable, language must be free to grow and change organically, without the grammar police of an academy constraining it in the straitjacket of convention.



Every mother hopes the person looking after her children will be just like Mary Poppins. The reality is that many au pairs lack experience

How to pick an au pair

midnight his wife came back.

drunk, and they started fight-

ing. I was caught between

them, discussing their prob-

lems. I really don't think that's

two-year-old baby were

thrown out of the house and

Miss Renoux went to London,

although she had neither money nor a place to stay. The agency said it could do

nothing and the only alterna-

coped, but I had

paid them £90 and

they were meant to

be responsible for

can't tell whether

or bad. It's down to

description and a

The lack of a job

Two days later, the wife and

pair Louise Wood-Massachusetts accused of murdering a young boy in her care, will cause unease in many working mothers.

Miss Woodward, a 19-yearold from Chester, faces life imprisonment if found guilty of battering and shaking the nine-month-old boy to death. While her defence claimed the death was the result of a prior injury, the prosecution painted Miss Woodward as bitter and vindictive, unhappy with how she was treated by her charges parents.

Families can find themselves hurdened with an unsuitable, ill-prepared au pair: on the other hand, vulnerable girls are sometimes treated as domestic drudges, or even abused by their host families. However, au pairing still has people an opportunity to experience a different language and culture, and many au pairs forge friendships with their hosts. Parents often prefer them to nannies because the arrangement is cheaper and less formal.

However, just as the trade is growing - 10,000 girls and 200 boys now come to Britain each year, and a new agency springs up weekly - regulations governing the hiring of au pairs have been scrapped. To cut back on red tape, the last Government dropped the In the light of the Louise Woodward trial, Matthew Beard looks at how to find an au pair kids is out all day working. was placed by a Paris agency.
"I stayed at home watching TV
until the husband returned. At

legal requirement for agencies to register. Instead, an agency is placed under scrutiny only once a complaint has been made. This, say child protection groups, is tantamount to "shutting the stable door once the horse has bolted".

In the US, the Government has responded to parents' fears by introducing tighter regulations governing the au pair trade. Young people applying for an pair visas must show they have had at least 200 hours' experience with infants, 24 hours' training in child development and eight tive was to return home. I hours' training in

child safety. In the absence of 'Au pairs government controls here, a group should be International treated as Au Pair Agency (IAPA) in 1995, an elder which is based in South Kensington, West London. The IAPA - which now boasts 65 members

has established guidelines for all aspects of au pairing. It lays out and monitors codes of conduct for agencies, au pairs and host families, and promotes safe and well-organised au pair programmes around the world.

Having seen many of the victims of "mismatches", Jack Corona, IAPA's treasurer, urges parents to avoid choosing an au pair from a magazine advertisement or a non-IAPA agency, which might be less rigorous in checking

Eighty per cent of matches work, the other 20 per cent fail because of incompatibility." he says. "But this can be avoided by asking basic questions at the outset."

When Valerie Renoux, a French law student, arrived at the home of a family in Rochdale, they did not seem pleased to see her. "After just two days the

mother went out, leaving me alone all day without food, says Miss Renoux. 21, who

compatibility.

au pairs often run away.

stances. If a wife with young

son or complaints procedure, she says, daughter' means many end up doing more than the suggested limit of five hours' light work a

day. "In reality it often turns out to be a lot more. But you can't say no, you have to live with them." Guidelines for the maxi-

mum permissible workload, drawn up by the Council of Europe and complied with by most agencies, recommend that au pairs do no more than five hours' light housework and childcare each day. In return they should get free board and lodgings, one day off a week, plus time to attend language courses, and pocket money of £35-40 a week.

hey should be treated as an elder son or daughter not as a drudge," says Mr Corona. "Nor should they be expected to be at home all day long. That's not what the job is about." He says overworked The parents also have to be honest about their circum-

not good: "He was a lavabout whose ambition was to live off the State. The two of them staved in their bedroom and had rampant sex most of the

then that must be made clear

because a girl can be found

who doesn't mind staying at

home all day, in exchange for

iona Beard felt the

best way that she and

could ease the strain of doing full-time jobs and

🕇 her husband, Martyn,

bringing up three young child-

ren was to get an au pair. "We

didn't want a nanny, just

someone to pick them up from

school, make their supper and

After advertising in The

Lady magazine, they hired a

New Zealand girl in her early

twenties to look after their five-

year-old daughter and two

boys, then 7 and 11. After a few

months, the au pair began to

pine for her boyfriend, also

from New Zealand, until even-

tually he also moved into the

family's home in Market

Harborough. Mrs Beard's

first impressions of him were

do light housework," she says.

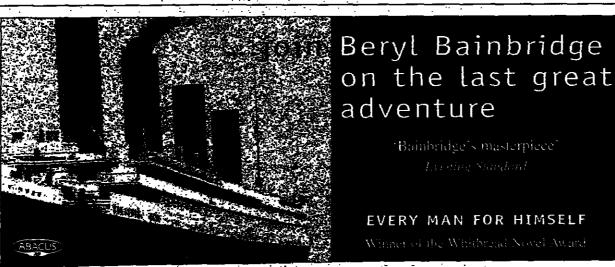
evenings and weekends off."

In the summer they ran away to get married, forcing Mrs Beard to take several weeks off work. The Beards did not discover until several months later, when they were giving a dinner for friends and after the young couple had left the country - that the pair had financed their wedding by selling the family's

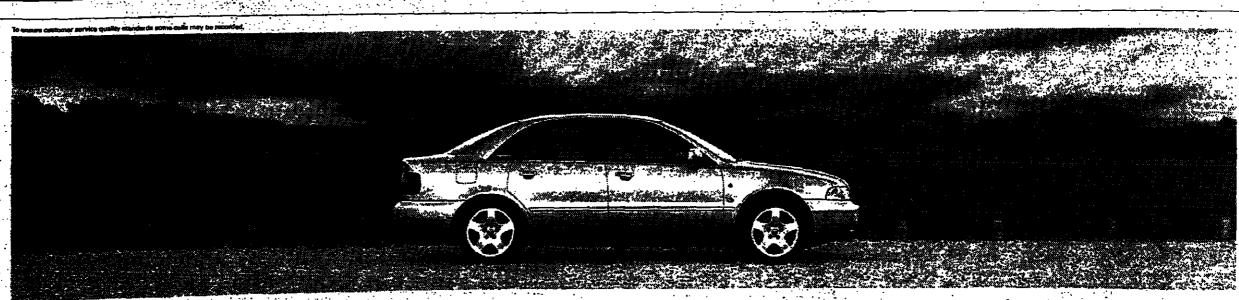
The Beards then paid an agency £250 to find a new au pair, and took on a 21-year-old childish," said Mrs Beard, who once found the girl crying under the dining table because she did not have any sweets. She was also traumatised for several days after seeing Mrs Beard accidentally run over a pheasant. "She was a nightmare," says Mrs Beard, "It has convinced

me of the need to vet a girl before taking her on." ● International Au Pair Agency.

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Philip Howard



All our romantic notions of the raggle-taggle Gypsies-O are Borrowed

"Friends and loves, we have none. Nor wealth, nor blest abo-ode. But the Hope, the Burning Hope, and the Road, the open Ro-o-oad..." Roma (Gypsies) are romantic until they park their vans at the bottom of your garden. Then they arouse NOGIMBY — No Gypsies In My Back Yard. So they passed Dover, and the Immigration trumpets sounded a raspberry

for them on the other side.

For six centuries the settled peoples of Europe have felt a mixture of phobia and lead routine lives. We get up to shave and take a train, then plod back through the customary signal failures on the Circle Line to shave again. At weekends we mow the lawn and endure the big weekly shop. So it is not surprising that we are occasionally bored out of our grey suits with the mortgage, commuting and the vicarious experience of other folk's news. And so we daydream about the scholar Gypsy who one summer morn forsook his friends and went to learn the Gypsy lore, and roamed the world with that wild brotherhood. We should probably enjoy the discomfort of nomadic life as little as Matthew Arnold would have.

The Romanies are stock figures of the romantic imagination. But the r.i. is inaccurate and anachronistic about their real lives. Today they are more likely to wear shellsuits than exotic though greasy embroidery, and to ride in camper vans rather than painted caravans drawn by piebald ponies. They have always excited literary and artistic interest, usually as heroes rather than dangerous wanderers outside the law, likely to decamp with suburban chickens or fair-haired children. In one of the earliest examples of the genre, Meg Merrilies helped Walter Scott's Guy Mannering to recover his estate in Scotland. Two of the most popular heroines of grand opera are Gypsies. Bizet took Carmen from a story by Merimee, and Puccini discovered La Boheme in Henri Murger's Scènes de la vie bohème, which was a huge popular success. Liszt wrote a learned treatise on Romany music. And Johann Strauss Jr, Franz Lehár and Noël Coward introduced variations of the Zigeuner into the classical repertoire and café entertainment.

ut the man chiefly responsible for Gypsy in English was George Borrow, an occasional and colourful correspondent of The Times. As with much iournalism, readers could not make out whether his writings were autobiographical, iaction or pure fiction. His books are full o conversations in plausible Romany. Antonio: "There is a drungruje (royal road) between here and Doverlati, and you can travel it in the birdoche (coach) or with the dromále (Eurostar)." Myself: "Every man must accomplish his destiny: what befalls my body or soul was written in a gabicote (book) a thousand years before the founda-tion of the world." But Lavengro lost Borrow popularity because its anti-gentility tone frightened the respectable classes.

Tracking the wanderings of the Gypsies down the centuries is as much of a detective story as their legendary romance. Most substitutions of "y" for "i" in spelling, as in sylvan and tyro, are for dubious antiquarian effect. But we should spell a Gypsy with two "y"s to remind ourselves of his supposed origin in Egypt (wrong again). His Greek name, atsingani, with its cognates such as the French gitans, is the name of a medieval Manichean sect. It is a misattribution. English Gypsy and Hungarian faraoni are red herrings up the Nile. The Rom in Romany refers to the Byzantine Empire, not Romania. The language, Indo-European related to Hindi, has a strong admixture of Slavonic and Greek words. Gypsies came from India to Europe in the 14th century.

Centuries of intermittent persecution have done less than EU regulations and the welfare state to make Gypsy existence difficult. They have, however, been officially recognised as a racial group by the Commission for Racial Equality. And their romantic history has inured them to headlines such as "GiroCzechs" and the false derivation of gyp, to cheat. The OED prefers gee-up, a dialect word for "to treat roughly". But etymology and history do not stand a chance against the wild Gypsy romance.



"FUNNY HOW AFTER ONE STOCK MARKET CRISIS YOU IMMEDIATELY SEEM TO NEED ANOTHER ...

Don't let us off the hook

s war einmal eine Steuer-reform. Der Bundesrat lehnt endgültig ab."The tone of the Frankfurter Allgemeine's headline last Saturday was weary rather than shrill. "Once upon a time, there was a tax reform. The Upper House finally rejects it."

An overwhelming majority of the German people agree that tax reform is necessary. An overwhelming majority of the nation's parliamentarians think so, too. But when it comes to the precise size and shape of the reform, consensus breaks down. Such is the machinery of the German Constitution that this failure of consensus paralyses the whole

project, and has done for years.
But I am no expert on the German tax system. My purpose is different: to examine the nature of political decisiontaking. On the way we must visit proportional representation, but first let

us look in on Sit Arthur Conan Doyle . . . "Is there any point to which you would wish to draw my attention?"

To the curious incident of the dog in the

night-time."
"The dog did nothing in the night-time."
"That was the curious incident." remarked Sherlock Holmes.

In the riddle of one small silence may lie the key to a wider mystery. Such a riddle teased me recently when I learnt that many Liberal Democrats are maintaining a curious silence on the question of whether London should have an elected mayor.

How odd. This is a party which yearns to democratise government at every level. Londoners elect their borough councils but the city as a whole is run by diktat from central Government. Putting power in the hands of an elected mayor would offer Londoners two local elections where now they have only one. What Lib Dem doubt could possibly

One has been mentioned. A London mayoralty might draw power and attention away from borough councils, in many of which the Liberal Democrats do well at elections, and towards an individual who would usually be Conservative or Labour. The democratic focus would move from councils, which are partly Liberal Democrat, to a man or woman who was - how should we put it? - completely not a Liberal

An unworthy doubt? Most of a new mayor's powers would have been drawn downwards — from the Environment Secretary. Surely it would be shabby to oppose democratisation out of fear that one's party might not gain?

Government is about firm decisions. We need an equally clear electoral system

Perhaps. But it was in that argument that a mayor is not an assembly that I found the key to the riddle. Answering the riddle has started me on a logical journey which takes us to the heart of the problem with proportional

A borough council is an assembly. An assembly can be composed of many people, with diverse political affiliations. Depending on the voting system — firstpast-the-post or proportional represen-tation — this assembly can be to varying degrees a mirror image of the differing desires of the electorate. An assembly is

But a mayor is not have a 28 per cent Liberal Democrat (or 4 per cent BNP) mayor. You can elect a mayor by any system you like, proportional representation or first-past-thepost, but, once elected,

your mayor cannot display conflicting political affiliations — cannot reflect the differing desires of the electorate he serves. A mayor, like a president or a prime minister, is pre-eminently a decision-taker.

Come to think of it, a decision is like a mayor, prime minister or president. A decision - although it may follow vast consultations with those who hold conflicting opinions — cannot itself reflect opposed opinions. We declare war or we don't we cannot declare an 85 per cent war on the ground that 15 per cent of the electorate are pacifists. We privatised the electricity industry or we didn't we could not have privatised 42 per cent of it because 42 per cent of

voters voted Tory.

We go into the single currency or we don't. We created a National Health Service or we didn't. Frank Field sets up compulsory second pension or he doesn't. We will keep our nuclear deterrent or we won't. All these decisions can be taken by a prime minister drawn from a Cabinet, drawn from a party, drawn from an assembly, drawn from the whole population and elected to reflect the conflicting desires of the voters in proportion to their numbers. But the decisions themselves cannot reflect the conflicting desires of voters in proportion to their numbers.

And the problem about making a mayor "democratic" is precisely the problem about making a decision democratic. You can fiddle about with the process. Everything about the system by which we get our mayor (or decision) can be designed to mirror the views of the voters whom the mayor (or decision) is to serve; but that democratic process must shudder finally to a halt and pause, quivering, at the eye of the needle, the thing it was all designed to produce: the mayor himself — or the decision. Neither is able to "mirror". To pass throught the eye of that needle it becomes necessary to leave many voters

behind - "unrepreleadership, unlike the means by which we choose a leader, must always be first-pastthe post A decision is essen-

tially binary: tick the box, "Yes" or "No".

There might have been five good reasons for Yes and three good reasons for No, but if Yes it be, then it is Yes completely, not three fifths Yes. Each decision is taken by the mental equivalent of first-past-the-post. The preponderance wins outright. Beaten, the losing arguments are reduced to

This is not to say that every problem requires a one-thing-or-the-other response. There may be a multiplicity of options, but binary reasoning (which is how computers operate) must confront each separately, and ask - of each -Yes or No. If the answer is No. we move on to the next question.

And government, in the end, is about taking decisions. You can devise as elaborate a system of proportional representation as you like (the most elaborate would be the inclusion of every citizen in your legislature) but all the process can produce is an assembly (or a president). In Britain we produce the assembly and let the assembly produce the leader; the Americans vote directly for a President; but whatever footwork you choose, the path can only lead to the question in Roger McGough's poem: "Yippee, I'm the leader. I'm the leader. OK, what shall

There is something dishonest about indecision.

flattering the populace with the assur-ance that you have devised for them a voting system which can produce an assembly which mirrors the kaleido-scope of their affections, when the kaleidoscope is impotent to translate those affections into decisions. A democratic assembly does not exist to be a big, colour portrait of the nation's political complexion. Opinion pollsters can paint that for us. We may admire the portrait, but an assembly must act.

First-past-the-post usually gives us government by one party and by a unified team. Systems of proportional representation will more often produce government by coalition, as in: Germany. Coalitions offer more scope for the vetoing of proposed decisions. To revert to the terminology of binary decision-taking, coalitions sharpen more pencils to tick the "No" box. No is (in computer terms) the "default option": "no action": status quo. By using or threatening this veto, those who wield this pencil can achieve one of two outcomes: either No to everything - no action at all - or a final Yes to an option which involves so modest a change that

nobody much objects.

Both are, or course, decisions. Status quo is a decision. "Little change" is a decision. And some regard the inherent conservatism of coalition government as one of the selling-points of proportional representation; others decry it as a recipe for paralysis.

An interesting debate, yet my purpose is not to pitch in on one side or the other, but to ask a different question. Is a system designed to favour the default option — the "no change" or "little change" outcome — likely more accurately to mirror public opinion than a system which helps a single party. elected by less than half the nation, to bulldoze a decision? Is it more

"democratic"?

It is not. "No change" may be the decision for which there was little, or the least, popular support. As the German example suggests, there may be options example suggests, there may be options for change which command much greater public support than the option of inactivity. But if inactivity is the default option in every decision, and every decision is binary, the option of inactivity is given artificial weight in every al culture where the veto thrives. PR is therefore a cheat on democracy. It would distract us by holding up to us a Parliament which mirrored our opin-

ions, while secretly entrenching the minority whose preference is for

under fire Hong Kong

Janet Bush on

a stock market as fragile as China

naious quenes formed outside bank branches in Hong Kong as the stock market crashed yesterday, offering an age old symbol of financial disaster. But the good people of Hong Kong were not lining up in a panic to withdraw their money to safer deposits under mattresses and pillows. Instead, they were clamouring to switch their savings into higher-yielding accounts as interest rates soared to squeeze the speculators who now have the Hong Kong dollar under the most serious assault since it was pegged to the US currency 14 years ago.

Although there was one sad report of a British banker who committed stricide because, it is assumed, of dreadful stock market losses, there seems to be a remarkable degree of sang-froid among the glearning office blocks of Hong Kong island. The Hong Kong Chinese, capital ists to their fingertips, are worried but not despairing. One fund manager said that most of his colleagues had lost money in the stock market this week but cest la vie, it is part of the game. Anyone with spare cash had been ploughing it into the market and had made a packet as it climbed to dizzier and dizzier heights. The market would bounce again, he said. Crashes are cathartic.

Such coolness under fire may prove a touch foolhardy. Last month, when the world's top bankers arrived for the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund, the miracle economies of East Asia had been torn apart, their currencies devalued and stock markets decimated. But Sir Donald Tsang, Hong Kong's dapper Financial Secretary, calmly insisted that the crisis was virtually over. He said that Hong Kong's economy was fundamentally strong and was backed by the increasing market power of China. Most of all, Hong Kong had its currency peg against the US dollar, a totem of stability accorded almost religious awe which would be defended to the last drop of Hong Kong and China's estimated \$120

billion of foreign exchange reserves. Hong Kong's currency arrangements helped to see it relatively unscathed through the 1987 world stock market crash and smaller debacles after Tiananmen Square and the Gulf War. But the impenetrable wall of official confidence that Hong Kong's peg will vanquish the massed ranks of Western speculators cracked a little after Taiwan abandoned the faith last Friday. This long defended a fixed parity against the US dollar but, despite huge reserves, has now dramatically abandoned its peg in the face of devaluations from many of its competitors in the region. Now even the most stubborn optimists are wondering privately whether Hong Kong can hold out when even Taiwan felt it could not Some even commit the ultimate heresy and ask whether, if the anchor now threatens to become a source of instability, it should be abandoned.

HARRING, HA

The Hong Kong authorities are determined to fight for the peg, whatever the cost, because a U-turn now would only deepen the current crisis of confidence. They argue that their local economy is largely immune from com-petitive devaluations elsewhere because 90 per cent of its earnings come from services. It may be true that Hong Kong does not have to worry too much about price competition for its small rump of manufacturers but its highly prized service industries are extremely vulnerable to a period of high interest rates.

ong Kong is far too dependent on banking and property, both of which will suffer badly as the stock market takes the strain of the fixed currency policy to be complacent Property prices have been outrageously ramped up, the average residential property doubling in value over the past 18 months. Two thirds of companies traded on the Hang Seng stock exchange have some property interests; a third are completely dependent on them.

Overnight money charged to banks was yesterday quoted at 300 per cent. Canny depositors may be queueing up to take short-term advantage but many months of prohibitively high interest rates will surely leave the conspicuous consumers of Hong Kong island, more heavily boutiqued than Manhattan is-

land, looking distinctly ragged.

Despite the prospect of financial ruin for many in Hong Kong, local people are more sanguine about the longer term than foreign observers. There was much angry muttering on the streets yesterday about fairweather overseas investors. abandoning the region en masse because they seem unable to distinguish between troubled economies such as Thailand and Malaysia and Hong Kong, still regarded as the region's

glittering capitalist jewel. So much depends on China, feted at the IMF meeting last month as the preeminent newcomer to the global cconomic stage. Hong Kong is pinning its hopes for the future on being Beijing's banker, accountant, sales and marketing director, port of entry and middle man for the investment billions which are beginning to pour into the hinter-land from Western companies eager to capitalise on China's new consumers. As long as China continues to open up its economy and embrace market reforms, Western money will be attracted there and there is a chance that the funds currently fleeing from the Hong Kong stock market will come back in a different, healthier form. To be allowed to play its role as China's Manhattan, the men who run Hong Kong for maximum profit have to prove that they are good enough capitalists to face the

Parents' day

WHEN IT comes to sensitive schooling decisions, Mr and Mrs Blair have learnt their lesson. Who should be seen investigating an inner-city comprehensive yesterday morning but Cherie, scouting for a place for her nine-year-old daughter, Kathryn. When Mr Blair sent his eldest son, Euan, to the grant-maintained London Oratory he faced deep rumblings

Defiantly, he also sent his second son, Nicholas, but a new approach is to be adopted for Kathryn, in her last year at an Islington primary. Cherie was shown around the all-girls Lady Margaret School

from class warriors in his party.

(old girl: Janet Street-Porter) in southwest London during an open



"OK, emission statement"

their offspring. Last year 93 parents appealed against her decisions at a four-day tribunal. Things can get very emotional and nasty as parents attack neighbours with children at the school," she complains. I suspect, though, that Mr and Mrs Blair will have

day. Unlike the Roman Catholic

Oratory, Lady Margaret is a Church of England state school. It

is not, however, your average

comprehensive. Last year 90 per

cent of pupils passed at least five

GCSEs, making it the top state

school in London and the seventh

best in Britain. Joan Olivier, the

head teacher, approves of up to 15 hours of homework a week. The

girls know that this is a place of

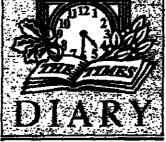
study. We push them as far as they

Ms Olivier's strictures work -

there are six applicants for every

place, and she has to deal with

irate parents who fail to whisk in



■ TRAFFIC wardens would be advised to steer clear of the dandy boxer, Chris Eubank. Arriving at the BBC for an interview, he parked his garish American truck on a meter but declined to feed it. A clamping van hastened to the scene but lacked a device big enough for his grotesquely large wheels, so Eubank was given a ticket instead. This leniency did little to console the boxer. Eyewitnesses tell me that on returning to the vehicle, he turned a particularly unbecoming shade of puce.

Cut dead

SHARING the British Designer of the Year Award this week with his rival, Alexander McQueen, Was clearly rather painful for John Galliano, chief stitcher at Christian Dior. Sooner than collect the trophy with McQueen, who designs for Givenchy, Galliano missed the awards ceremony at London's Albert Hall. His office insisted that he was "busy in Paris". Odd, then, that an acquaintance should have stumbled across him round the corner, drowning his sorrows at a local bar with the equally antisocial frock-maker Vivienne Westwood.

Grounded

STINGY and unpatriotic, officials at Mansion House, digs of the Lord Mayor of London, are refusing to muck in with celebrations to mark the 50th anniversary of the Berlin airlift in 1999. They have refused to open their doors to 400 British veterans of the lift.

"We asked if we could hold a reception there. But they told us they were too short of money, having overspent on VE-Day," says Air Marshal Sir John Curtis, a former airlift hero. "Back In 1949 there was a huge celebratory lunch there. All we are asking for is evening drinks."

Sir John is not a man to show off. "The airlift was a bit boring." he recalls. "I had to fly to Berlin 260 times. It was rather like being a bus driver."



WHILE Ian Botham has been stumped by the legal bill for his libel battle with Imran Khan, the former Pakistan captain (pictured with wife Jemima) is in dispute with his solicitor, Howard Cohen, over bills for the case. "We are entitled to an itemised account, which we have not received. We can resolve this," says a Khan crony. But a court hearing is scheduled for next month. Offers Cohen: "We are in ongoing discussions."

A LARGE bird tells me that the BBC has had problems with its spanking new logo: a stark design featuring straight letters and minus the coloured bars. The cost of this artistic breakthrough? £5 million to you, the licence-payer. One director said that "a competition on Blue Peter would have resulted in a far cheaper and better offer-

ing". The aim was to fix the logo to the side of Television Centre, with the letters hollowed out of plastic. This idea was eventually scrapped after officials realised that the letters would make a perfect home for pigeons - and their, er.

JASPER GERARD | toil firepower of the market — and win-

BLAIR'S COMMONWEALTH

Its strength lies in Balfour's vision of unity based on freedoms

Five hundred years after John Cabot. embarrassing. Robin Cook appears to arriving off Newfoundland, wrote the first believe that as host, Britain cannot go sentence of Britain's imperial history, 43 heads of state gather today for the summit of the unique experiment in post-imperial association that is the Commonwealth. For most, this will be their first extended encounter with a British Government committed to raising their organisation's profile. New Labour, new Commonwealth will be the Edinburgh theme.

The emphasis will, rightly, be on current tasks, not history. Labour judges the Commonwealth a success to be built on. To judge by the lengthening queue to join by states as disparate as Yemen, Rwanda and possibly even Jordan and Israel, by Fifi's return to the fold and even by the noisy demands for an Edinburgh welcome from renegade Nigeria, it is not alone in its enthusiasm. Yet the Government's ambitions for this summit appear to be slim. It risks misreading the Commonwealth's real comparative advantage in the crowded world of international organ-

Trade and investment, the theme Britain has chosen, as host, to open the debate, is a perfectly sensible topic. But on trade and the economy, the Commonwealth is not and will never be the pivotal forum. The Government should not be satisfied with a declaration of high-minded principles about economic cooperation in a globalised world. The most useful thing such a debate could do would be to focus on accountable government and the fight against corruption.

That would link economics and politics and recognise the plain truth that it is as a political forum that the vitality of the Commonwealth is judged. The 1991 Harare Declaration, which committed Commonwealth governments to "democracy, the rule of law, just and honest government and human rights", made this heterogeneous club a rule-based organisation. It now needs to demonstrate that these rules are taken extremely seriously. That means tough decisions at Edinburgh on Nigeria, and a frank warning to Kenya's increasingly repressive President, Daniel arap Moi. Both questions will be divisive and potentially

around saying rude things to a Kenyan guest. But if the Commonwealth is to retain its newfound reputation as a champion of the common weal, words must not be muffled for the sake of temporary harmony.

Two years ago at Auckland, Nigeria was suspended from the Commonwealth after the judicial murder of the Nigerian writer, Ken Saro-wiwa. That summit demanded the release of 43 political prisoners, including the winner of the annulled presidential elections, Moshood Abiola, a respected former President, Olusegun Obasanjo, and Ogoni political activists. None has been freed. The summit also set a deadline, then said to be two years, by which Nigeria must restore democracy or face explusion. A Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG) was created to investigate, mediate and, if Nigeria did not co-operate, devise stiffer sanctions. CMAG has been treated with utter contempt by Nigeria's singularly corrupt and lawless military regime.

Expulsion ought in these circumstances to follow. So should economic sanctions, as Mr Cook vociferously demanded when in opposition. Yet Labour and Emeka Anyaoku, the Commonwealth Secretary-General, are now united against expulsion or even a serious toughening of sanctions. They justify this on the ground that the Commonwealth would have no leverage on Nigeria if it threw it out. But it has been unable to exercise any as things stand.

Nigeria would not be so cross about its exclusion from this summit if it did not, at root, value its membership; it would be more likely to make concessions as the price of rejoining than it will if it is persuaded that the Commonwealth will do nothing. That is what Nigeria's own brave democrats believe, and will tell the fringe nongovernmental meetings in which Labour has encouraged heads of government to participate. Chief Anyaoku, himself a Nigerian, is delicately positioned. Leadership from this Government, pledged as it is to put human rights at the heart of foreign policy, is both expected and required.

HARRYING HARRIET

The battle within Labour for welfare reform

Secretary, has become a favourite sport of MPs, old and new, Labour and Tory. Commentators love to criticise her too. One thing her enemies have in common: they are lmost all men. Perhaps because she is so frank about her feminism. Ms Harman seems to raise men's hackles. But her critics do have a point.

In the past couple of days, the Social Security Secretary has done herself no favours. She has annoyed the Lord Chancellor by implying that women judges were needed to preside over domestic violence cases. He conceded that he wanted more women judges but stamped on the idea that men were anything other than impartial. Then yesterday, on the Today programme; Ms Harman flannelled hopelessly when faced with statistics showing that few lone parents were taking up the opportunity to have an interview with an employment adviser. There was a sense of déià entendu: is Ms Harman becoming the Virginia

Bottomley of this Government? In many respects the two women are similar: when asked a difficult question, they stick to the script, repeating the answer they gave earlier. Both lack rigour. Though perfectly intelligent, neither could be described as intellectual. And both, when pressed, sound defensive and petulant.

Ms Harman's officials praise her competence and her skill at chairing meetings. On the whole, they prefer her to the Minister of State for Welfare Reform, Frank Field, who threatens too many of their long-held beliefs and is held to show none of her instinct for making things happen. The

Baiting Harriet Harman, the Social Security Treasury has found her surprisingly effective she has thrown herself into the comprehensive spending review with vigour and did not balk at the politically difficult task of cutting benefits for lone parents. Ideologically, she is fully behind the new Labour project.

Her relationship with Mr Field, however, is extremely poor. Her friends tell journalists how badly he is doing. She sees him as a threat and an enemy: yet he is unlikely to oust her since she has the Chancellor's protection. A wise politician would have tried to bring him into her circle.

There is some scope for friction with the Chancellor too. Although Ms Harman and Mr Brown are close, he is keen on integrating tax and benefits, which she sees as a threat to the independent taxation of women. To go back to taxing husbands' and wives' income together would, in her view, be unacceptable.

Within the Labour Party, Ms Harman has not recovered from her decision to send her son to a grammar school, a move that even alienated some women MPs. In a party of inverted snobs, she will never be as popular as, say, Mo Mowlam or Clare Short. This could prove a grave handicap to Mr Blair's intention to reform welfare. Almost whatever route he takes will be anathema to the Left and Centre-Left of the party. Yet it will be presented by three of the most modernising and least popular ministers: Ms Harman and Messrs Brown and Field.

If Mr Blair had a centre-left Secretary of State, such as David Blunkett, he could protect his flank. As it is, the Prime Minister may find himself sorely exposed.

ROMAN HOLIDAY

There are better ways to revisit the past than trampling it

To be transported by timewarp back to Ancient Rome is an ancient fantasy. Each generation attempts the trip by its peculiar vehicles, from Bulwer Lytton's historical blockbusters to the Hollywood genre of togaand trident epics. Alma Tadema's Roman maidens look like Victorian sixth-formers in gym tunics, while Asterix goes in for Eleusive puns about the Classix. So the project to build an Ancient Roman theme park is merely the latest in a long series of attempts to rediscover our Roman heritage.

As our Rome correspondent reports today, the plan is to build a three quarter-sized model of Ancient Rome at Orvieto, two hours' journey by executive coach from the original. Replica Rome will take more than a day to build. But the city of fibreglass should be ready for the barbarian invasions (in the original sense) expected for the millermium.

Everything is going to be done to make the Roman experience authentic. Visitors to the Palatine hotel will dine by torchlight instead of electricity, and use fingers instead of forks to savour the pungency of garum, the original of the anchovy paste called Patum Peperium. The businessmen in charge of the Roman experience have not yet setfled on any period, for the real Eternal City is an archaeological palimpsest of 25 centuries. They should pick Rome at the time of Nero.

popular of the English kings, although he was a dangerous autocrat and serial wifekiller. Similarly Nero is the best known and most popular of Roman emperors, although he was a dangerous autocrat and serial killer of his mother, wife and anybody else who got in his way. He thought he was a master lyre-player, warbler and actor, and inflicted himself upon audiences at musical competitions. So his Roman experience should include singing and acting contests (Nero-oke?). And there should be chariot races. Nero thought he was a master jockey, and insisted on riding a ten-horse chariot at the Olympic Games. He fell off, but was still prudently adjudged to have won.

Henry VIII is the best known and most

There could be a lake with joke collapsible boats, wrestling matches with tame lions for visitors dressed as Hercules or Diana, and competitive fire-raising. As Napoleon said on St Helena, most of what history says about Nero is probably false. And indeed Suetonius and Tacitus were embittered and spinning for the new regime. But they knew that colourful rascals make popular history. And as Williamsburg already shows, and the Stonehenge visitor centre will show, new technology done with imagination and care can open windows on the past as well as save the old stones themselves.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

'Greenhouse wars' - is the Earth really getting hotter?

From Mr Michael Hird

Sir. Dr David Carson's response (letter, October 20) to Nigel Hawkes's question, "Is the Earth really getting honer?" (Mind and Matter, October 13), will have served a useful purpose if it helps to bring out into the open the fierce debate which is going on be-tween the global warming theorists and the sceptics. Readers of the New Scientist (article, "Greenhouse wars — why the rebels have a cause", July 19), will have been left in no doubt that passions run high, and that there are heavyweights on both sides. Scientific

consensus there is not. The rise in temperature of about 0.6C over the last century is debatable because ground stations were being absorbed by urbanisation over the period; cities are warmer than the countryside. However, whatever warming did occur took place in the first half of that period, whereas 70 per cent of the increase in carbon dioxide emissions occurred in the second half. Nigel Hawkes rightly makes the point that the satellite record has been confirmed by the balloon record, and confirms that very little warming, if any. has occurred since 1945.

The most credible explanation for climatic variability is the impact of solar flares on the earth's atmosphere, as put forward by researchers at the

Danish Meteorological Institute. The politicisation of this issue is fascinating and will be on full display at the Kyoto summit in December. Perhaps we should ask Dr Carson and the other believers to state what observed facts would disprove the theory, which at the moment is showing all the signs of a scientific hypothesis in terminal decline.

Yours sincerely. MICHAEL HÍRD, 4 Copperfields, Beaconsfield, Buckingbamshire.

From Dr David Cromwell

Sir. As a Green activist and former Shell geophysicist, I will not be joining in celebrations to mark Shell UK's 100th birthday. How can I, when Shell UK's sister company in the United States, Shell Oil, remains a member of the Global Climate Coalition, the fossil fuel lobby which has spent more than \$10 million on advertising intended to convince Americans that their jobs would be at risk if carbon dioxide-cutting measures are adopted at the Kyoto summit? Last week's announcement that

Shell International is making a "significant" move into the renewable energy market (report, Business, October 17) is at first sight heartening. How-ever, oil companies are reluctant to admit that - as a result of decades of government subsidies to prop up the ssil fuel industry — the economics of the energy markets are loaded in favour of carbon dioxide-emitting

Heinz Rothermund, managing director of Shell UK Exploration and Production, last month told delegates at a conference in London on the future of the UK oil and gas industry: "It is a hard fact of life that renewable energy sources are not economically viable."

The reality is that with human ingenuity we can adapt the economics accordingly. Fixing the climate system would be somewhat trickier. Mr Rothermund's comments suggest that he lacks that quality which Shell personnel management prizes above all others - holistic thinking - which recognises that the economic system is subordinate to the resources provided by our living planet, not the other way around.

While Shell refuses to acknowledge this, there is no cause for celebration.

islands and a general relaxation of the

trading and other restrictions which

had existed up to that time. On bal-

ance the agreement was greatly to the islanders' advantage.

The object was not merely to secure

a generous package, but to convince

the islanders that we were not, as they

had earlier accused Lord Chalfont, in

the process of "selling them down the

River Plate". I believed that a long-

term solution of the vital question of

sovereignty would have to depend on

the agreement holding for a mini-

mum of 25 years, during which a gen-

eration of islanders would have

grown up who had been to school in

Argenting and who hopefully no long-

er regarded the Argentinians pri-

Unfortunately, ten years later the

Argentine Government invaded the

islands, thereby shattering for at least

hard-won confidence that they could

be trusted as good neighbours. Sadly.

discussions in Buenos Aires, at how-

ever high a level, are still unlikely to

restore any such confidence unless the

islanders can somehow be once again

a further generation the islanders

marily as predators.

involved in the process.

Wayside, Moushill Lane,

Milford, Godalming, Surrey.

Yours faithfully, DAVID CROMWELL (Member, Southampton Green Party). 32 Avenue Road. Southampton, Hampshire. ddc@soc.soton.ac.uk October 20.

Prostate cancer test

From Mr D. L. Crosby

Sir, It is good to see today (Body and Mind) that Dr Thomas Stuttaford is back in action, and we all hope that he will continue to make a swift and complete recovery from his total prostatectomy (article, October 9; letters, October 16). However, any call for universal, regular prostate cancer screening needs to be viewed with caution.

The recommended age range and frequency of such tests is unclear, and those suspected to be positive for cancer will need invasive investigations. For those subsequently undergoing major surgery, there are risks and side-effects, even in the most capable surgical hands.

The end result of a national programme along these lines is conjectural. It would certainly need substantial resources, but if the outcome was favourable, it would have to be funded. Clearly, therefore, a carefully controlled trial needs to be done. Until we are sure of the benefits it would be irresponsible to divert such major resources away from other healthcare interventions which we know to be effective.

cancer is a most unpleasant disease. More research rather than universal screening may be the best way

Yours sincerely, DAVID CROSBY (Honorary Consultant Surgeon), Cardiff Community Healthcare, Fairwater Road, Llandaff, Cardiff. October 23.

Prayers and pints

From the Reverend Vaughan Roberts

Sir, I was surprised by the concern of your correspondents (letters, October 20) over Dr Carey's recent suggestion that churches should arrange meetings in pubs and supermarkets. So often in the past Christians, by refusing to adapt their practices to fit in with contemporary culture, have created unnecessary hindrances for non-believers. Our message must never change, but we must be willing

to alter its packaging.

Many of the students I work among in Oxford have never been to church and find its rituals alienating, and yet are still fascinated by the person of Jesus of Nazareth. We have recently started meetings in a local pub. providing an opportunity to discuss the historic truths of Christianity over a meal and a pint. These have proved immensely popular. A significant number of those who have attended are now regular churchgoers.

We cannot expect to reach a largely unchurched generation of young people without being willing to meet them on their territory.

Yours faithfully. VAUGHAN ROBERTS (The Students' Pastor). St Ebbe's Church, Oxford. stebbes@patrol.i-way.co.uk October 20.

Sound investment?

From Mr Russell McCormick

Sir, Mr J. Whittle (letter, October 21) opines that breaking the sound bar-rier on land was a "stupid waste" of talent, enterprise and courage.
As a physicist and engineer, I am

aware that nearly every improvement in life is as a result of research, such as breaking the sound barrier on land. I am particularly reminded of your correspondent's namesake, Sir Frank Whittle, and his development of the gas turbine, which radically changed air transport.

Have no doubt that we shall benefit from the work done in the Black Rock desert of Nevada.

Yours sincerely, RUSSELL McCORMICK, 17 River Green, Hamble, Hampshire. russeli mccormick@compuserve.com

Falklands talks

From Sir David Scott

Sir. President Clinton's suggestion in Buenos Aires that Britain and Argentina should resume talks on the Falkland Islands (report and leading article. October 18) calls to mind the last occasion on which the two countries had face-to-face discussions on the islands' future and indeed reached agreement on the first steps towards what we sincerely hoped would contribute to a final settlement.

In 1971 and 1972 I led a team from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to the islands and to Buenos Aires to investigate, in full co-operation with the Islands Council, how closer relations between the Falklands and Argentina could be developed.

In November 1972 we signed a Communications Agreement between Britain and Argentina, under which the Argentine Government undertook to provide inter alia the construction of a temporary airstrip at Port Stanley, the provision of an air service between Port Stanley and Comodoro Rivadavia and hospital facilities in Argentina for cases of serious illness. together with subsidised secondary

education for the Islands' children In exchange, Argentina secured the right of entry for her citizens to the

Cold War propaganda

From Mr Robert Elphick

Sir, Your report (October 20) of Michael Nelson's book about broadcasting in the Cold War, headlined "M16 fed Cold War propaganda to BBC", seems to give the impression that there was something reprehen-sible in the activities of the Foreign Office's Information Research Department (IRD).

As a correspondent in the late 1950s in Moscow, and later in Vienna, trying to make sense of the communist dictatorships, I often made use of IRD's output. The stuff they produced was reasonably factual and far from the kind of propaganda we had to deal with from all the official media in

these countries.

Yours sincerely,

DAVID SCOTT

It was offered as a service. We did not regard it as propaganda and I could take what I liked from the supply. As such it was a necessary and elcome counterpart to the flood of lies and half-lies produced by the regimes in question, which were concerned to make us believe in the scientific inevitability of the triumph of communism over capitalism.

Far from having their achievement called into question now that the Cold War is safely over, the IRD ought to be given due recognition for their sterling service.

Yours sincerely. ROBERT ELPHICK, 90 Lupus Street, SW1.

After the storm

From Mr David Edwards

Sir, On January 3, 1989, you printed a letter from Dr Oliver Rackham, the leading authority on trees and woodland, advising landowners against rushing into solutions for the problems created by the Great Storm of October 1987.

He said that the need for replacing ancient woodland was dubious, that replanting is destructive of a wood's character, and that an existing wood is the worst place in which to get planted trees to grow. Libby Purves "When the great wind blew", October 14) takes the same line - that nature vigorously restores itself.

Here, in our piece of semi-natural ancient woodland, we took the contrary view. Many trees as old as 150 years had simply been blown out of the ground, which is mainly sand. We thought the only sensible thing to do was to clear them away and replant

Sir, "Walking through the forests of

the Scottish Highlands 2,000 years

ago ... The time traveller would have

had no National Trust acoms ... to

guide him" (report, October 23). Nor

would he today - but the National

Trust for Scotland makes up with its

Lockerbie, Dumfries and Galloway.

Letters may be faxed to .

0171-782-5046.

c-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

pearson+j_john@dumgal.gov.uk

Scots markers

From Dr John Pearson

thistle symbols.

Yours faithfully

October 23.

JOHN PEARSON,

4 Caven Place, Ecclefechan,

among the surviving trees with the same species that had flourished for hundreds of years.

So far the result has exceeded all our expectations. We have large numbers of fine straight oak, ash, cherry and hornbeam, many already 15 feet

They have needed a lot of care and maintenance, which perhaps a professional forester would have found uneconomic. Yet the moral is that replanting ancient woodland can work well, if it is done carefully.

Above all, we have moved towards having a mixed-age wood, which is now seen by many foresters as the best model for future management. replacing clear felling by selective culling, so that the canopy always

Yours faithfully DAVID EDWARDS, Olivers Lane, Colchester, Essex.

Sensitive souls From Mr S. M. Grant

Sir, I write not merely to endorse Mr Eric McQuaid's splendid protest (let-ter, October 21) at thin-skinned Government ministers defending their activities in your columns, but to suggest saving yet more of your limited space by excluding all letters with multiple signatories - particularly those from collections of academics, industrialists or professionals in a lather over whatever precious vested interest seems to them to be under threat at the time.

Yours faithfully, S. M. GRANT, 2 Beechwood Close, Banledown. Cheltenham. Gloocestershire. October 21.

Conspiracy theory cavalier with facts

From Mr Peter Shipley

Sir, The case put by Professor Ham-merschmidt-Hummel (report, "Rebel at the easel", October 18) that the artist Sir Anthony Van Dyck harboured republican sympathies may be strong on pictorial symbolism but reveals a

tenuous grasp of English history. In particular her contention that the groom in the 1635 painting of King Charles I at the hunt is Oliver Cromwell in disguise preparing to seize the reins of power is completely unhistorical. At that time Cromwell was living in comparative obscurity in St Ives, Huntingdonshire. His fortunes were low and although he was involved in some local matters he did not establish himself as a national figure until

some ten years later. Your report's regard for historical facts appears equally - if I may use the expression — cavalier. The case against John Hampden for refusing to pay "ship money" was not concluded until June 1638, and he did not have an ear chopped off. That fate befell John Bastwicke for seditious libel in

Some of this material could have formed the background to the martial portrait of 1638, but the stormy signs that the professor detects are more likely to reflect fears about the imminence of war with Scotland, of which no mention is made. But even this did not threaten Charles's hold on the

English throne. Yours faithfully P. S. SHIPLEY. 17 Park Avenue, Caterham, Surrey. shipley@btinternet.com October 19.

From Lord Dacre of Glanton

Sir. The fantasies of Hildegard Hammerschmidt-Hummel may not merit the exiguous supply of powder and shot that would disperse them — far less a full page in *The Times*: but surely we may admire the intrepidity of this German professor of "Anglistik" who is prepared to correct us all by placing Van Dyck's portraits of Charles I "in the context of contemporary events" when it is clear that of that context she knows nothing, absolutely nothing.

Yours faithfuly, DACRE of GLANTON, House of Lords. October 19.

Mozart unmasked

From Professor John N. Adams

Sir, Your headline "Musical scholars unmask Mozart the plagiarist" (report, October 6), suggests that Mozart was guilty of reprehensible conduct: he was not. The idea that the borrowing of themes (or indeed whole sections of works) is wrong is a development largely associated with the Romantic period and the idea of the author or composer as individual

No Baroque composer had the slightest compunction about borrowing, nor did most Classical composers. It is true that J. C. Bach succeeded in 1777 in getting copyright in this country extended to musical works (Bach v Longman), but Britain had the Copyright Act of 1709-10 which long predated that of other countries. and copyright law and the concept of authors' rights have a symbiotic relationship.

Late 18th-century Austria had no copyright law, and a law based on the French concept of the natural right of the author or composer to his cre-ations was enacted only a generation after Mozart's death.

Mozart's "hit tunes" from his operas were freely borrowed by others for wind bands. He would have lived by the same rule.

Yours faithfully, JOHN ADAMS (Director). Intellectual Property Institute, 25 Southampton Buildings. Chancery Lane. WC2.

More, please

October 14.

From Mrs E. J. Willmore

Sir. Before any irrevocable decisions are made against the cloning of humans, may I suggest a quick pro-gramme to replicate Libby Purves and Alistair Cooke (in large numbers) in the interests of accuracy, common sense, wit and balanced judgment.

Yours faithfully, E. J. WILLMORE, Vicarage Farm, Claxton, York, October 21.

Eastbourne Spice From Miss Christine Moore

Sir. Your front page pictures of the Conservatives in casual dress (October 22) reminded me less of The Clothes Show than "The Spice Boys go to Eastbourne": left to right, Sporty Spice (Desmond Swayne), Ginger Spice (Tim Loughton), Baby Spice (William Hague), Posh Spice (Philip Hammond) and Scary Spice (John Redwood).

Yours faithfully CHRISTINE MOORE, 27 Willowbank Drive. Rathfarnham, Dublin 14 christine.moore@ida.ie October 22.

COURT CIRCULAR

PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE

October 23: The Queen arrived at Edinburgh Airport this afternoon and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Licutenant of the City of Edinburgh (Mr Eric Milligan, the Rt Hon the Lord Provost).

Her Majesty drove to the Palace of Holyroodhouse and was received by the Deputy Keeper of the Palace of Holyroodhouse (the Lord James Douglas-Hamilton)

the City of Edinburgh District Coun-ed, the Rt Hon the Lord Provost surrendered to The Queen the Keys of the City, which Her Majesty returned

A Guard of Hunour found by the 1st Battalion The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment), under the com-mand of Major Michael Onslow, was mounted in the Forecourt.

The Hon Benjamin William Mkapa (President of the United Republic of Tanzania), the Hon Te Republic of the Republic of Kiribati) and of the Republic of Kiribati) and Sheikh Hasina (Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh) were received later by The

The Rt Hon Jean Chrétien (Prime Minister of Canada) and the Hon John Howard (Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia) dined Commonwealth of Australia, with Her Majesty at the Palace of Holyrordhouse this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Master. this afternoon attended the Corpora-tion of Trinity House Civic Lunchcon at Trinity House, London EC3.

His Royal Highness, Patron, this evening attended the Fiftieth Anniversary Dinner of the Royal Institute of Navigation at Plaisterers Hall, London Wall, London EC4.

Councillor Brian Fallon (Deputy Licutenant of the City of Edinburgh) was present at Edinburgh Airport today upon the Arrival of The President of the Republic of Mozam-bique. The President of the United Republic of Tanzania and Mrs Mkapa. The President of the Repub lic of South Africa and Mrs Machel. The President of the Republic of Ghana and Mrs Rawlings. The President of the Republic of the Gambia and Mrs Fual-Janimeh, and The President of the Republic of Namibia and Mrs Nujoma and eleomed them on hehalf of The

The Lord Haskel (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this evening upon the Arrival of The President of the Republic of Malawi and Madame Muluzi and welcomed His Excellency and Ma-dame Muluzi on behalf of Her

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will open the Commonwealth Heads of Govern-

ment Meeting in Edinburgh at 230 and with other members of the

events during the meeting until

The Duke of Edinburgh will

attend a reception to promote the

Army Cadet Force Association in

Soutland at the Army Head-

quarters. Craigiehall, South

The Prince of Wales, patron, International Tree Foundation,

peremony at Princes Street Gar-

dens. Edinburgh at 1.40 to mark

The Prime Minister of Canada was

luncheon of the Canada-United

Kingdom Chamber of Commerce

held yesterday at the London Hilton on Park Lane Mr John

ber, presided. Among others

ber, presided. Altong outer present were:
The High Commissioner for Canada, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. Buroness Symons of Vernham Dean, Lord Shaughnessy, the Agents General for British Columbia and Quebec and the Chairman of the British-Canadian Parliamentary Group.

Gencalogical Studies Major-General Viscount Monek-

ton of Brenchley, President of the

Institute of Heraldic and

the guest of honour and speaker at

the foundation's 75th anniversary.

Queensferry, at 5.30.

Canada-UK Chamber

October 27.

Today's royal engagements

Luncheons

BUCKINGHAM PALACE October 23: The Duke of York, Trustee, this morning left Heathrow Airport, London, to visit Lakefield College School and to attend events as Patron, Round Square, at Appleby College, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE October 23: The Prince Edward this evening attended the Royal Tennis Court Dinner at Hampton Court

Captain Neil Blair RN is in

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 23: The Princess Royal this
morning opened the Commonwealth
Partnership in Medicine Meeting at
the Assembly Rooms, George Street,
Edinburgh, and was received by Dr
John McKay (Deputy Lieutenant of
the City of Edinburgh).
Her Royal Highness afterwards
opened a new laboratory at the
Medical Research Council Collaborative Centre, Western General Inlitmany, Edinburgh.
The Princess Royal, this afternoon
attended a short installation occu-BUCKINGHAM PALACE

attended a short installation ocre-mony to accept the gift of Honorary Membership of the Merchant Com-pany at the Merchants Hall, Hano-ver Street, Edinburgh. Her Royal Highness later visited the non-Covernment, Oceanisation the non-Government Organisation

Exhibition at the Commonwealth Centre, Assembly Rooms, George Street, Edinburgh. The Princess Royal, Patron, Sex-

and Africa 97, this evening attended a Reception at the University of Edinburgh, Old College, South Bridge, Edinburgh, Her Royal Hightness, Patron, College of Occupational Therapists, after-wards anended the Diamond Jubilee celebration for Occupational Therapy Education in Souland at Queen Mangarer College, Duke Street, Edin-

KENSINGTON PALACE October 23: The Duke and Duchess of Glouesster arrived at Heathrow Air-port, London this evening on conclu-sion of the visit to the Gulf States of Bahrain, Qatar and United Arab

Miss Suzanne Marland was in YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE ST JAMES'S PALACE
October 23: The Duke of Kent. Vice
Chairman, the British Overseas
Trade Board, this morning visited the
Korea Institute of Science and Technology and this afternoon visited the
British Council and British Information Centre.

tion Centre. His Royal Highness this evening attended a Dinner given by the Director of the British Council (Mr T. Tuneyi at the Lotte Hotel, Scoul, for Korean alumni of British Univer-



هكذا من رلامل

World's best wildlife pictures go on show

THE remarkable picture on the right is the overall winner in this year's Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition. It shows a common tern fishing and was taken by Tapani Räsänen of Finland.

The photograph above of a polar bear mother and cub was highly commended in the animal behaviour: mammals section of the competition. Wayne R. Bilenduke of Canada took it. He said: "After travelling for many kilometres in Wapusk National Park, Manitoba, I finally came upon this mother with her two newborn cubs. She cradled one cub on her front paw, while the other one snuggled out of sight against her warm body."

The competition, now in its fourteenth year, aims to find the best wildlife pictures taken by photographers all over the world. This year it attracted more than 20,000 slides from photographers in 68 countries. Among the winning and commended entries are shots of two young snow monkeys cuddling for warmth in the Japanese Alps, an electric blue queen angelfish in the Cayman Islands, and snow geese taking off at dawn in New Mexico. The judges place special emphasis on photographs taken in wild and free conditions. All 150 winning and commended images will go on show at the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, in an exhibition which opens to the public on Saturday.

The competition is sponsored by BG plc and organised by BBC Wildlife magazine and the Natural History Muesum, London. The British tour of the Wildlife Photographer of the Year Exhibition will visit 36 venues.



Prince Edward, trustee, will attend a reception and dinner for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Wales on board HMY Britannia Queen Alexandra Dock, Cardiff.

The Princess Royal will visit the Commonwealth Exhibitions in the City Art Centre, 2 Market Street. Edinburgh at 2.20; and as visitor. St Mary's Cathedral Workshop Project, will attend a Reception in the grounds, 28 Manor Place. Edinburgh at 3.30.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of the Aldeburgh Festival Anniver-sary Appeal, will attend the Aldeburgh October Britten Festi-Aldeburgh, Suffolk, at

Genealogical Studies, presided at

a convocation luncheon held yes-

terday at the Chaucer Hotel,

Canterbury, and presented a Ju-

lian Bickersteth Memorial Medal

to Mr Brian Frith in recognition of

his vervices to family and local

history studies for over 50 years.

Dr R.E. Lloyd-Roberts, chairman,

gave an address and presented Viscount Monckton with a medal

in recognition of his 35 years

service to the institute, and also

presented a medal to Mr Cecil

Humphery-Smith in recognition of

his 40 years as principal of the

The Earl of Ulster celebrates his

23rd birthday today.

Sir John Adve, former director, GCHQ, 58; Sir Geoffrey Bateman. otolaryngologist, 91; Mr Phil Ben nett, rugby player, 49; Signor Luciano Berio, composer, 71; Miss Lesley Bidstrup, medical consul-tant, 81; Sir John Bielloch, civil servant. 67: Rear-Admiral J.H. Carlill, former secretary. Engineering Council, 72; Mr PJ. Chenery, former secretary, British Council. 51: Mr David Cope. former Master, Marlborough College, 53; Baroness Dacre, 68; Mr Jonathan Davies, rugby player, 35; Sir Robin Day, broadcaster, 74: Mr Frank Delaney. writer and broadcaster, 55; Cap-tain Sir Thomas Dunne, Lord-Lieutenant of Hereford and Worcester, 64; Dr R.A. Easton, former chief executive, Delta, 49; Mr Henry Elwes, Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire, 62; the Earl of Gainsborough, 74; Mr Peter Gell-horn, conductor, 85; Colonel Sir John Gilmour, former Lord-Lieutenant of Fife, 85; Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon, 59: Sir Ralph Halpern, former chairman and chief executive. Burton Group, 59; Mr Wally Herbert, explorer, 63; Miss Sena Jurinac, opera singer, 76; Mr Kevin Kline, actor, 50; Sir Keith Morris, former diolomat. 63: Sir Fred Pontin. ounder. Pontin's, 91; Prolessor W. Linford Rees, psychiatrist. 83; Professor Sir Peter Russell, FBA, Hisoanic historian, 84; Sir Robert Sainsbury, joint president. J Sainsbury, 91; and his son Lord Sainsbury of Turville, 57; the Marquess of Salisbury, 81; Mr Bill Wyman.

Rolling Stones' guitarist, bl.

Birthdays today

Navy Board

Mr George Robertson, Secretary of State for Defence, attended a the Navy Board last night at Admiralty House. Admiral Sir Jock Slater, First Sea Lord, presided. Among others present were: The French Ambassador, the Duke of Westminster, the Bishop of London, Brigadler Lord Vivian, General Sir Charles Guthrle, Rear-Admiral Nigel Essenhigh, Mr Tony Pryor, Mr David Robens, Mr George Simpson and Mr Kevin Tebbit. **Bowyers' Company** The Master of the Bowyers' Com-pany welcomed the guests and his grandson who had been bound as

an apprentice at a court meeting before the annual Agincourt dinner held last night at Tallow Chandlers' Hall. Mr Clive Arding and Mr P. Gwynn-Jones, Garier Principal King of Arms, also spoke. General Sir Patrick Palmer and the Masters of the Armourers' and Brasiers', Musicians' and Turners' Companies were present. Scriveners' Company

The annual Ladies' Dinner of the Scriveners' Company was held last night at Apothecaries' Hall, Mr D. Jackson, Master, presided, as-sisted by Mr O.J.R. Kinsey and Mr N.A Grimston, Wardens, Mrs. Jackson also spoke. Dr and Mrs Christopher de Hamel, Lieutenant Commander N. Barker. HMS
Benver, and Mrs Barker, and
Wing Commander P. Morris,
RAF, LXX Squadron, and Mrs
Morris near the president Morris were the principal guests, The Masters and Clerks of the Painter-Stainers', Innholders', Musicians'. Wheelwrights, and Master Mariners' Companies and

Dinners

Mr John A. Bischoff, Master of the Loriners' Company, presented Mr 1997 Silver Medal and Bursary at a court dinner held last night at Cutlers' Hall. The Master, assisted by the Wardens, presided. Mr Dennis Barkway and Liveryman Ms Samantha E. Allen also spoke. Mr C.D. Tatham, the Master of the Pewterers' Company and the Master of the Society of Apothecaries of London were among the guests. Earlier, the following were

elected officers for the ensuing Master, Mr Graham B. Forbes: Upper Warden. Mr Edward I. Walker-Arnott: Under Warden. Mr Jonathan R.A. Allibon.

Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators Prince Michael of Kent was the

guest of honour at the annual Trophies and Awards dinner of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators held last night at Guildhall. Mr Ronald Bridge, Master,

Awards were presented to: Cap-tain D Massy-Greene, Mr D Bateman, Mr G Tomlinson, Dr M Bagshaw, Mr M Clatworthy, Captain Leul Abate, Mr K Perrin, Lieutenant B Nicholas, Lieutenant J Collicum, Lieutenant G Norris. Petty Officer P Warrington, Leading Aircrewman R McKee, Mr F Wontton, Flight Lieutenant M Chatterton, Air Commodore S McIntyre and Mr M Bishton. Guild of Management

Mr George Cox, Master of the Guild of Management Consul-tants, assisted by the Wardens,

presided at an installation dinner held last night at Carpenters' Hall. Sir Alastair Morton, Mr Jack and Mr Chris Woodhead were the guest speakers.

The Flyfishers' Club Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, MP. was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Plyfishers' Club held last night at the Savoy Hotel Mr D.R.W. Harrison presided.

London Yorkshire Society Sir Donald Thompson, MP, pre-sided at a dinner of the London Yorkshire Society held on Wednes-

day at St Stephen's Constitutional Club, Westminster. Dr Bernard Spencer was a speaker. Mr Chris Hassell, chief executive of Yorkshire County Cricket Club, and Mr David Daniel, chairman of the northern Yorkshire Society, were among those present.

Baron Razzall

The life barony conferred upon Mr Edward Timothy Razzall has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Razzall, of Mortlake in the London Borough of Richmond.

Baron Garel-Jones

The life barony conferred upon Mr William Armand Thomas Tristan Garel-Jones has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Garel-Jones, of Watford in the County of Herifordshire.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T.G.B. Atkinson and Miss M. Takada The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of Mr and Mrs William Addinson, of Ealing London, and Masami, daughter of Mr Toshio Takada, of

Osaka, Japan, and the late Mrs Mr A.L. Barnes and Miss J.M. Coleman The engagement was announced in Naples, Florida, on October 16, between Andrew Barnes and Jenna

Coleman, both of Wimbledon. Mr R.J. Brookshank and Miss S. Hutchinson The engagement is announced between Robert, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Brooksbank,

of Hetton, North Yorkshire, and Sallyanne, daughter of Mr and Mrs Herbert Hutchinson, of Eastgate, County Durham.

Mr A. Cunningham and Miss L. Sugarman
The engagement is announced between Amhony, son of Mr and Mrs Andrew Cunningham, of Whiteparish, Wittshire, and Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs Cyril Sugarman, of Wivelsfield Green, West Sussex.

Dr R.H. McShane md Dr. H.L. Pritchard The engagement is announced between Rupert, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Neil McShane, of Dedham, Essex, and Helen, daughter of Mrs. Frances Pritch-ard, of Shooters Hill, London. Mr G.C.W. Madden

and Miss S.J. Step The engagement is announced between Graham, son of Squadron Leader and Mrs F.A.P. Madden, of wansea, and Sara, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.N. Stephenson, of Parbold, Lancashire.

Public Record Office

The Duke of Norfolk, KG, attended a ceremony held yesterday in the library of the Public Record Office to mark the removal to Kew from Chancery Lane of the bust of Henry Bickersteth, Lord Langdale, Master of the Rolls, 1836-1851 and first Statutory Keeper of Public Records Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, and Mr Edward Bickersteth were the speakers. The Right Rev John Bickersteth led prayers and Dr Geoffrey Martin, former keeper, read a message from Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, 1962-1982. Dr Sarah Tyacke Keeper, the Advisory Council and members of the Bickersteth family

United Medical and Dental Schools

were also present.

On October 23, 1997, the United Medical and Dental Schools of Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals awarded Honorary Fellowships to: Mr Simon Argles, Dr James Birley. Professor Timothy Clark, Professor Sir John Crofton, Professor Michael Hutt, Dr John McLean, OBE, Professor Jack Rowe and Professor Sir Eric Stroud.

The ceremony was held at Southwark Cathedral and Dr Malcolm Godfrey, CBE. Chair-man of the UMDS Council of Governors, presided. A reception was beld in the Glaziers' Hall followed by a dinner in the Governors Hall at St Thomas Hospital.

Felix Barker

A celebration of the life of Felix Barker will be held at St Bride's. ber 13. · ·

and Miss G.K. Scott The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Dawnay, of Ragny, Normandy, France, and Gabriella daughter of Mrs A.M. Scott, of Holland Park, London, and stepdaughter of Mr M.R. Scott, of Great Waldingfield, Suffolk

Mr S.C. Ewen and Miss A.S. Eastwood The engagement is announced-between Spencer, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Ewen, of Biddestone, Wilshire, and Amelia, daughter of Colonel Tim Eastwood, of Moreton Pinkney, Northamptonshire, and of the late Mrs (Gillian) Eastwood.

Herr T. Hartmann and Miss C. Malcolm-Smith The engagement is announced between Thomas, only son of Herrn and Frau Manfred Hartmann, of Wetzlar, Germany. and Charlotte, second daughter of Mr and Mrs John Malcolm-Smith, of Edinburgh.

Mr P.V. Smiley and Miss A.F. Chapman The engagement is announced between Parrick Valerian, elder son of Mr D.V. Smiley, of Meadwell, Devon, and of Mrs Robert Cuninghame, of Caprington.
Ayrshire, and Arabella Faith,
daughter of the late Brian J.
Chapman, of Leicestershire, and of
Mrs David Jinks, of Gaddesby

Hall, Leicestershire. Mr R.M. Young and Miss E.J. Whitwam

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Young, of Bath, Somerset, and Emma Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Whitwam, of Goring on Thames,

Physicians of Edinburgh

The Prime Minister of Malaysia and Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah binti Haji Mohamad Ali were welcomed as Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh by Professor John Cash yesterday at 9 Queen Street, Edinburgh Receptions St Piers, Linefield

The Lord Mayor attended a reception held yesterday at Grocers Hall in support of the centenary appeal kir. St. Piers, Lingfield, which provides education, treatment and care for concanon, treatment and care with children, and young people with epilepsy and other special needs, Lord Howe of Aberavon, CH. QC. appeal president, and Miss Hannah Gordon, vice-president, were the

speakers. American Chamber of Com The Hon Bernard Jenkin, MP, was the speaker and sponsor at a recep-tion of the American Chamber of Commerce (UK) held last night at the House of Commons

Prices Safety Council

Mr Tim-Flooper was the host at a reception held yesterday at Armourers' Hall for the Bruish. Safety Council's diploma in Safety Management and Diploma in Environmental Management.

Service dinners

HMS Collingwood Rear-Admiral John McAnally, Flag Rear-Admiral John McAnally, Flag Officer, Training and Recruitment, was the guest of honour and proposed the toast to the Immortal Memory at a district field last night in HMS Collingwood to mark the anniversary of Trainings.

Engineer & Logistic Staff Corps General Sir John Sübbon, Chief Royal Engineer, was the principal guest at the annual dunner of the Engineer & Logistic Staff Corps RE (V) held last night at the Royal Engineers Headquarters.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: William Penn_founder of Pennsylvania, London, 1644; Cuthbert Collingwood, Ist Baron Collingwood, admiral: Newcastle upon Tyne, 1748; Sir Moses Monteflore, philanthropist, Leg-horn, 1784; Dame Sybil Thorndike, actress, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, 1882; Tito Gobbi, baritone, Bassando del Grappa, Italy, 1915; Marghanita Laski... writer, Manhattan, 1924.

DEATHS: Jane Seymour, third wife of King Henry VIII, Hampton Court, 1537; Alessandro Scarlatti,

composer. Naples, 1725; Francis Turner Palgrave, poet and critic, London, 1897; George Cadbury, chocolate manufacturer and social reformer, Birmingham, 1922; Su-san Lawrence. Labour minister-1929, London, 1947; Franz Léher, composer, Bad Ischal: Austria, 1948; Christian Dior, conture de-signer, Montecarini, Italy, 1957. The Chicago gangster Al Capone was jailed for 11 years and fined

\$80,000 for tax evasion, 1931. The United Nations was formally established, 1945.

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Heraldic and

Show us your favour, Lord, show us your favour, for we have suffered insult enough. Too long have we had to suffer the leasalts of the arrogate, the compensat of arrogant, the contempt of the proud Frahm 123 : 3,4

BIRTHS

DOOD - On 29th September to Elizabeth (noc Parzatt) and Nigel, twin sons, George Arthur and Charles Arthur and Charles Frederick, brothers for Jessamy and Honry.

PENWICK - On October 22nd to Elizabeth (née Turnbull) and Mark, twin sons, Hugo Anthony and James Mor

FOWLE - On October 15th, 1997, in London, to Caroline (nee Fane Trefusis) and Charles, a son (Thomas

LANE - On October 21st 1997, to Samantha (nee Scott Thomas) and Charles, a son, Jacob Thomas Simon. AcGUIGAN - On October 10th at The Portland Hospital to Ruth (nee Tolhurst) and Paul, a son, Patrick.

Archbishop Bruno Heim, vice president, Viscountess Monckton, Mr J.P. Brooke-Little, Clarenceux King of Arms. Mrs Humphery-

BIRTHS Rosa and Christopher a son, Charles Julian Wright, a brother for Arabella PLCHER - On 17th October to Rachel (née Wilson) and Simon, a son, Alexander John Anthony.

institute

ROBIME - On October 17th at The Portland Hospital to Heldi and Olivier, a beautiful son, jonchim. WELLESLEY - On 23rd October to Emma (née Jenks) and William, a son, Julian Valerian Arthur.

WILLS - On October 15th to Lindsoy (nee Dodsworth) and John, a daughter Anna Diane.

DEATHS

BARKER - Robin Peter.
Peacefully on 18th October
after a short illness. Much
loved husband of Sus, father
of Simon and julle,
grandfather of Alexander.
Funeral Service 1.30pm on
30th October at the Royal
Garrison Church of All
Saints, Aldershot. Burial
family only. No flowers.
Donations if desired to "The
Children's Ward Appear", clo
Ford Mears & Parthers, 19
Geosvenor Road, Aldershot,
Hants Gull 101.

LYTH - Jacqueline (Hilda and Chelsen, SWJ on 1st September while in Italy. The funeral and burial took place in Terracina. Enquiries to 1. Dean Farrar Street, London SW1H ODY (Ref BPG).

CARVER - Anna, Widow of the late Humphrey Curver of the Kenya Administration and farmer, much loved mother and grandmother, died on October 21st 1997, aged 89. Faneral private, Memorial Service at Duntisbourne Abbotts on Wednesday.

D'MELLO - Depuis, passe

Gibbs died at home in

HUNTER - Bob. Former Programme Editor, ITN Head of News, TV-AM. Managing Director - BSB. Dearly loved partner to Canola, died 12th October 1997 after an illne'ss borne with great courage and dignity. An untimely death which leaves a void in the hearts of all who loved him Flowers or donations for Chase Farm Hospital to Powell Funeral Service, 79 Burford Street, Hoddesden, Herts, ENI 1 BHX. Telephone - 01992 470153. Funeral at 2pm, 27th October at Parndon Wood Crematerium, Paradon Wood Brad, Harlow, Paradon

HALL - Peggy Eileen. On October 19th 1997 aged 90 years of Howle near Newport, Shopphirs-Formerly of Dokking, Surrey. Seloved wife of Frank. For funeral armagements please telephone [R. Williams Faneral Director, Tek 01630 654490.

HUGHES - Surgeon Captain Coeff Owen Le Cocq Hughes. Q.S.E., R.N. (Rtd.), (Peter) on 21st October 1997. Deady loved husband of Rosalind and the late Margaret. and the late Margaret. Private family cremation. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at St. Thomas' Church, Lymington on Wednesday, 29th October at 2.30pm. Donations if desired to Cancer Research Campaign clo Diamond & Son Funcail Directors, Lymington SO41 9DK:

PERSONAL COLUMN

MONK - Michael James uged 86 on Tuesday 21st October after a short illness. For 60 yearn very dearest husbond of Alice, also much loved father of Elhabeth, David and Bridget. Service at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Balcombe Road. Crawley on Honday Road, Crawley on Monday 27th October at 3.15pm.

ORGAN - Dr. Dean Arthu collies. Danity loved husband of Nancy and father of Sally. Wonderful Grandpa of Stuart, Stephan and Sam. Died on Monday 20th October whilst on holiday in Canada. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at St Andrew's Church. Little Thanki-group will be new at St Andrew's Church, Little Berkhamsted, near Hestford on Thursday 6th November at 3pm. Family flowers. Donations please to Cystic itions please to Cystic asis Trust, 1) London

PORTER - Dr. David Paterson.
On 20th October 1997 in
Ipswich Hospital, in his
82ad year. Much loved
husband of Betty, Rother of
Don, Maggie and Richard,
grandfather and great
grandfather. A Family Doctor
in Potters Bar for 80 years,
an Elder and former Session
Clerk of Crown Court Church
of Scotland, Funeral Service
at Ipswich Crematorium on
Monday 3rd November at
12.15 pm, (family flowers
only) with a Memorial
Service at Crown Court,
London, WCZ to be

ROOMS - Helen (née Ehrmann) on 22nd October, after a concageous light against cancer. Much loved wife of Simon and devoted mother of joshua and Ben. Greatly minsed by her parents, family and irlenda. Cremation at Hoop Lane, N.W.11. 10.30am Staday 26th. October. Familie

SATCHELL - Florence Mary Bridge. On 16th October 1997, daughter of the late Herbert A Satchell FRIBA and the late Eleanor M Setchell (note Hartung). No funeral. Body left for tessarch at her request. STAMMAGE - On 22nd October 1997, peacefully at Westecte Nursing Home, aged 94 years, Lt. Col. Donald Lonsdale Miles Standage. Beloved of

Donald Lonsdale Miles Standage, Beloved of Marjorie, loving Farher of Anne, Father-in-law of Norman and Step-Father to Colin and Gillian, Funeral Service at The Chapel of St. Cross, Winchester on Thursday 30th October at 12,00 noon, Family flowers only. 12:00 noon. Family flowers only.

SYMOMEDS - Ian pescentilly on Wednesday 22nd October at The Middlesex Hospital W1 after a long filnest bravely borne. Belowed partner of Alexander Myers. Solemn Requiem Mass at 11:00am on Wednesday 29th October Bromnion Orators. London

on wednesday 27th October Brompton Oratory, London SW3, barial afterwards at Hampatead Cemetery, Fortune Green Road, NW6. Family flowers only please, but donations to Stanbrook Abbey Press c/o W. Garstin & Son Funeral Directors, 1: Son Puneral Directors, 12 Chiltern Street, London WIM 1PD, 0171 935 4868.

Upottery Church ofo Laysel Funeral Services WISE - Dr Colin Charles

WISE - Dr Colin Charles.
Quickly and without suffering at Lindough.
Hospital on the 20th October 1997. He leaves bahind his lowing wife Dinne and children Mark and Keith and their families, Memorial Service to be held at All Saints Chunch, Fenanth, for family, friends and collasques at 12.15pm on Wednesday the 29th of October Frmily Howers only. October Fundly flowers only.
Donations if wished to the hand of Helen Bowen for The Intensive Care Unit Radowment Fund at Candiff Royal Infirmary, Newport Pend Cardiff.

HOMEAS - Peter Christopher Fountain aged 63 years, of Upotery died anddenly on 21st October 1997. Funual Service and internetal at St Mary's Church Upotery, Deven, Thursday 30th October 12,00 moon, Donations if desired to MEMORIAL SERVICES Bride's, Floet Street, 13; November 1145 am. SERVICES

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KCMG, KCVG, Bishop of
Wareaster 1971-1981 of
Tirley, Gloucester,
peacefully at home on
October 20th aged 82.
Beloved Rushand of
Henrietta. A much loved
father and grandfathet.
Private family Inneral on
Toseday October 28th at St.
Michael's Church, Indey and
Szaunton District Nurses.
Fund. Memorial Service at
Woncester Cuthedral to be
announced later. Enquities
please to John Hull Funeral
Director. Tel: Gloucester
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ELEMOUM - On October 19th at The Fortland Hospital to Jorgine (nee Jensen) and Jame, a son, Sebastian, a brother for Josephine. FERRIS - On 12th October to Alison (nee Powis) and John, a son, Hazzy Alexander.

> NALDANE-CLITHEROW - On October 17th at The Boyal Surrey County Hospital, to Simon and Dobra, a son, Alexander Samuel David. HORN - To Camilla (uée Russell) and Nicholas on 8th October a dunquier Lara.
>
> MIGNES - On 14th October
> 1997, to Amanda (new Cuff)
> and Mark, a daughter, Hebe
> Condella Craigmyle, a sister
> for Polly and Daisy.

DEATHS

SECOMME - Frances Hamilton (new Gurney) suddenly in Wimbjiedon on 21st Cerober in her 82md year. Belowed wife of the late Aloysius (Louis), lowing and dearly-lowed mother of Anthony and Louis, Mother-in-law of Monique and Katherine and Grannis to Geraldine, Emily, Sabactian, Dominic and Bonedict. Requiem Mass at Christ the King Church, Wimbjiedon Park on Wednesday 29th October at 11.00 am. Family flowers only.

Abbotts on Wednesday November 12th at twelve

D'MELLO - Dennis, passed away unexpectedly 15th Cotober 1997 at Ashford Hospital, Middlesex Seloved husband of Sylvia, loving lather of Enrica, Nobel, Newlov and Irring, lather-inlaw to Rod, devoted grandfather of Dominic. A wunderful man, He will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Gibs died at home in Doncaster on Monday October 20th 1997 having been fortifled with the Rites of Holy Church. Father Gibs will be received into the Church of St Peter in Chains, Doncaster on Monday 27th October at 5.30pm. Solemn Requiem Mass on Tuesday at 12 noon in St Peter's Church, Jesus mercy, Mary pray, Donations if wished for the Catholic Church of Paphos (Hospice Account) to the Presbytery, Chequer Road, Doncaster.

Family flowers only, densitions if desired to Tandridge Crossroads, c/o Ebbutt F.S. High Street,

London, WC2 to be announced at a later date.

26th, October. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the Breast Cancer Campaign or to Cancer Relief Macmillan Nurses

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OBITUARIES

Harold French, actor and theatre director, died on October 19 aged 97. He was born on April 23, 1900.

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n a stage career that links him with the golden age of Harley Granville Barker before the First World War, Harold French began his working life on the boards. From 1931 onwards, he was equally at home in films both as actor and director. But it is for his work for the stage that he will be principally remembered.

He had worked in the theatre from the age of 12 making his first stage appearance in 1912 in one of Granville Barker's famous Shake-speare revivals, The Winter's Tale. More than twenty years later, after a career of no great distinction in light and musical cornedy, he shifted, with much greater success, to direction. Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. prefacing a section of French's autobiography, said he had known very few men of the theatre whose lives had been so full in terms of professional fulfilment or so rich in friends.

This was perhaps an over-generous view of French's achievements on the boards. He never claimed to be a very good actor - on his own admission he lacked the necessary dedication. As a result, he was often "resting". His estimate of his own talents was not infrequently shared by the reviewers. Of his best-known role, that of Dick in the Blue

Logoon, Dorothy Parker remarked Now deeply committed to the Envire, from H. G. Wells's novel; tarriy on its Broadway opening: We have enough bad actors in America as it is. Why bother to

import another?" French's niche in the history of 20th-century theatre is, rather, for his work as a director, notably for getting Terence Rattigan's first play, French Without Tears, out of rehearsal - where for a long time it looked like being one of the stage's more spectacular disasters - intothe theatre, where it became the triumph which launched Rattigan's

Harold Prench was born in London of Irish parents. He found school tiresome and began his stage career by answering an Italia Conti advertisement for a welleducated boy of good appearance". After auditioning he was immediately engaged as understudy to Eric Rae's Mamillius in Granville Barker's Savoy Theatre production of The Winter's Tale, which had Henry Ainley as Leontes. He got his opportunity in October 1912, when he succeeded Rae in the role.

He decided (so he always liked to say) to ask if this William Shakespeare had written any other plays. History does not record what, if any, Granville Barker's reaction to this brazen ignorance was; but soon he had the chance to act in another Shakespeare play, as a black page in Granville Barker's production of Twelfth Night (also at the Savoy in 1912).

HAROLD FRENCH

theatre, he appeared in a Christ-mas piece, with Sybil Thorndike and Lewis Casson, at the Gaiety, Manchester, in 1912-13; in a London revival of Where the Rainbow Ends (Garrick, 1913); and in Hannele at . the Liverpool Playhouse - with the young Noël Coward and Gertrude

From then on, he was a familiar figure on the London stage and in the provinces. In the early years of the First World War be had small parts at the Haymarket before going for nine months to the Birmingham Repertory, where he was directed in a variety of parts by John Drinkwater. Astonishingly. for one so young, he was a great success in a number of roles as old

In 1917 he was called up into the Army and joined the Royal Flying Corps. On demobilisation, he made his first postwar appearance with Robert Loraine's company as both the Baron de Casterae and Athos in Cyrano de Bergerac at the Garrick in 1919. He always — perhaps somewhat ironically in view of its New York reception — regarded his best role as the shipwrecked youth in The Blue Lagoon, in which he opened at the Prince of Wales in

From then onwards for the next ten years he had a scattering of light roles of all sorts. Characteristic of this fare were The Visitor in The Wonderful Visit by St John

August 1920.

Wilbur Jennings in Good Gra-cious, Annabelle (Duke of York's, 1923); and four months as Stephen Audley alongside Lilian Braithwaite in Isabel, Edward and Anne (Haymarket, 1923).

A diet of revue (with the Hulberts) and in musical comedy, a run, with Gertrude Lawrence, in Oh, Kay! (His Majesty's, 1927-8), and another in Virginia (Palace) kept him going into the 1930s. His last performance of any note on the London stage was in a farce, Night of the Garter (Strand, 1932), which he detested.

By this time it was abundantly clear to him that neither his talents nor his inclinations fitted him for performing on the stage, but his ability to get on with the varied temperaments to be found in the theatrical world, and an undoubted talent for helping a play to develop from first reading to dress rehearsal made him decide to stay in the theatre, as a director. His earliest success was Hubert

Griffith's version of A Youth at the Helm (1934) and, in marked contrast to an acting career that had continually stuttered, he never looked back. He went on to direct nearly forty other plays, his flair in this sphere being seen at its best in the case of Rattigan's French Without Tears. Rehearsals went forward with a sense of deepening despair that this light comedy could ever be made to come to life. The

first dress rehearsal was a total fiasco. Yet it came out right on the night. The premiere at the Criterion in 1936 was a triumph, and Rattigan never looked back. That this was so was in a large measure French's achievement.

French continued directing into the 1970s, visiting South Africa with a number of productions including a The Winter's Tale in 1971. Among the films he directed were Jeannie (1941); Secret Mission (1942); Dodie Smith's Dear Octopus (1943), a crisp upper-class comedy of man-ners, and probably his best; and Rob Roy the Highland Rogue (1953) which starred Richard Todd, Glynis Johns and James Robertson Justice, none of whom however managed to inject life into what was a somewhat wooden version of the rebel's adventures.

French published a first volume of autobiography, I Swore I Never Would, in 1970 and a second, I Thought 1 Never Could, in 1973. Unlike so many luvvies' memoirs, which tend to asphyxiate the reader under the sheer weight of darlings encountered en route, they were well-written and hugely enjoyable - something that certainly came as no surprise to those he used to regale with his stories at the Garrick Club.

Harold French was married first to Phyl Arnold, who died in 1941. His second wife, the actress Mary Parker, also predeceased him, as did his daughter.



Harold French contracting the Australian actress Mary Parker, later to become his wife, to play in the melodrama Tabitha

SIR REGINALD MURLEY

Sir Reginald Murley, KBE, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, 1977-80, died on October 2 aged 81. He was born on August 2. 1916.

ONE of the most able, colourful and vociferous surgeons of ais time, Reginald Murley climbed practically every peak in his profession. But that never inhibited him from inveighing fiercely at every available opportunity against the organisation of the National Health Service and what he saw as its "manifest levelling-down of standards.

As a staunch individualist, he hated medical bureaucracy and centralism, and advocated much greater variety and choice for both doctor and patient. In 1985, before the advent of the NHS internal market, he urged in one of his frequent letters to The Times that the "highly insensitive be liberalised, and that "patients and their family doctors should learn to 'shop

The son of a fur-broker, Reginal Sydney Murley went to school at Dulwich College and thence to St Bartholomew's Hospital as a medical student. He gained scholarships in anatomy and physiology and was awarded the Sir William Dunn Exhibition. He qualified with the diplomas of MRCS, LRCP in 1939, and in the same year graduated from the University of London with honours in medicine and

As a Territorial officer in the Royal Army Medical Corps at: the outbreak of the Second World War, he was attached rold and breast disease. a field ambulance unitwhich was posted to Palestine and the Middle East and later to Abyssinia, where he served with I and 2 Maxillo-Facial Unit. He saw further service in the Middle East. France, The

Netherlands and Germany,

rising to the rank of major.

became a Fellow of the Royal family doctor and surgeon

College of Surgeons in 1946, and a Master of Surgery two years later. His appointment as consulting surgeon to the Royal Northern and City of St Albans Hospitals gave him the basis on which his later practice was founded, and he served both hospitals loyally and energetically until his

Murley was a highly experienced general surgeon, with a wide interest in many fields. As a plastic surgeon in the war he extended his activities into many branches, notably into problems of thrombosis, thy-

In the 1980s he gave some welcome publicity to the conservative local surgery for breast cancer, in preference to radical mastectomy, that was pioneered by Geoffrey Keynes as far back as the 1920s. "I would firmly encourage every woman who may find herself Back in civilian life, he oughly to cross-examine her. At the time, British doctors

before agreeing to any seemingly distasteful line of treatment," he wrote in The Times.

Aside from his surgical commitments, Murley became involved in medical politics. He was a vice-president of the Fellowship for Freedom in Medicine, and an adviser to the Social Affairs Unit and the Institute of Economic Affairs. He believed that in its first 30 years buck-passing between committees had become a way of life in the NHS, and that standards had fallen as a CONSCINENCE

In 1975 he advised a subcommittee of the US Congress not to follow the British system of a near-monopoly in medicine. The record of NHS capital works, he said, had been "disastrous", with "a few very pretentious and expensive large hospitals" absorb-ing funds which would have been better spent on equipin this unhappy situation thor- ment and diagnostic facilities.

were emigrating at the rate of 300-400 a year, equivalent to the output of four medical schools and, as a result, more than 60 per cent of junior hospital staff were foreign. "Mental and geriatric patients are often cared for by doctors who have but limited command of English," he said. And the shortages were leading doctors to become less like mem-bers of a profession, more like trade unionists, "unduly pre-occupied by their rights while less and less concerned with their responsibilities".

Murley served on the council of the British Medical Association, and was an active member of many medical societies. He had a special interest in the Hunterian Society and gave its oration in 1981, but he was particularly concerned with the council of the Royal College of Surgeons, of which he was president from 1977 to 1980. He had been a Hunterian Professor in 1950, and gave the college's Bradshaw Lecture in 1981, the same year that he was elected a patron of the college. In 1983 he was president of the Harveian Society. He had been appointed KBE in 1979.

He was a man of extraordinary vitality and energy, out-spoken and challenging, but with endless kindness, particularly to his juniors. He spoke clearly and wrote with care and deliberation; but he revelied in controversy, especially with those in administrative authority. He fought authority on the slightest provocation, but his intention was always constructive, as was shown by his writings on the financing of medical care and on the ventilation of operating theatres.

After his formal retirement he accepted the chairmanship of the Medical Council on Alcoholism in addition to numerous other commitments.

In 1947 he married Daphne (née Garrod), who was related to a famous medical family. He is survived by his wife and their three sons and three daughters.

THE RIGHT REV ROBIN WOODS

The Right Rev Robin Woods, KCMG, KCVO, Bishop of Worcester, 1971-81, died on October 20 aged 83. He was born on February 15, 1914.

ONE of the last of the courtier clerics, Robin Woods followed very much in the tradition of Randall. Davidson, with whom - though, unlike Davidson, he never became Archbishop of Canterbury - he shared the distinction of having been a highly successful Dean of Windsor.

As Domestic Chaplain to the Queen, a post normally combined with the Windsor deanery, he played an influential part in the education of the Prince of Wales. He was largely instrumental in the decision that led to the Prince being sent at the age of 18 as an undergraduate to Trinity College, Cambridge. (Woods him-self was an old Trinity man and had at the time two sons in the college.) Years later he was to be publicly thanked by Trinity's then Master, R. A. Butler, for having been "a great help to us in introduc-

ing the Prince to the college". Robert Wylmer Woods, always known as Robin, came from a family with a long record of distinguished service to the Church. The youngest son of Edward Woods, Bishop of Lichfield, and Clemence Woods (née Barclay), his eldest brother Frank was Archbishop of Melbourne and Primate of Australia, while his second brother Sam was an archdeacon in New Zealand.

Woods was always proud of his mother's Norfolk connections, and he was educated at Gresham's School, Holt, before going up to Trinity. The friendships he made in his university years endured throughout his life, and he was the mainspring of a group of Christian colleagues who continued to meet regularly. giving themselves the title of

the Trinity Group. Trained for the ministry at Westcott House, Cambridge, Woods was ordained in 1938 and, while holding a couple of curacies (one in London and the other in St Albans), also served from 1937 to 1942 as assistant secretary of the then flourishing Student Christian Movement. It was while working in this sphere that he developed his interest in young people, and also his determination to relate the Christian faith to matters of social concern.

From 1942 to 1946 Woods was a Chaplain to the Forces

with the Eighth Army, being virtue. The surplus accommoparticularly active during the Îtalian campaign when he ran the Chaplains' Centre at Assisi (he was also mentioned in dispatches). After the war he was for five years Vicar of the industrial parish of South Wigston in Leicestershire before, in 1951, becoming Archdeacon of Singapore, and Vicar of St Andrew's Cathedral there. In 1958 he returned home, at

the invitation of Leslie Hunter, to become Archdeacon of Sheffield and Rector of Tankersley. He remained there until in 1962 he was appointed Dean of Windsor and Domestic Chaplain to the Queen - an appointment for which his varied experience and background made him particularly suitable, though one that probably owed more (since the deanery of Windsor is, in effect, within the royal gift) to the longstanding friendship of his father - reaching back to

Royal Family. His nine years at Windson were certainly the period of his greatest influence and contribution. Faced with the difficult tasks of restoring the medieval buildings attached to St George's Chapel, and rationalising the canons' accommodation, he succeeded in turning this necessity into a

the days of the Queen's grand-

father, George

dation was converted into a conference centre, and it was his vision and drive which created St George's House as a place where the interplay between things spiritual and matters temporal could be developed by leaders and people of influence from every sector of the nation's life, and where systematic training could be offered to all levels of leadership within the Church. In this effort he was greatly helped by the active support and friendship of the Duke of

Edinburgh. While at Windsor he was also secretary to the oncehopeful Anglican/Methodist Commission for Unity, and its eventual failure in 1973 was a deep personal disappointment to him. From 1971 to 1981 he was

Bishop of Worcester, where he is remembered not only for his leadership over a difficult period of the Church's life, but also for his various contribuaffairs — as a member of the House of Lords from the mid-1970s, for his chairmanship of the industrial committee of the C of E's Board of Social Responsibility, and of the Counof Queen's College, Birmingham. He was also a Church Commissioner and vice-chairman of the Redun-

well as being a director of Christian Aid. The more courtly aspects of

his life were reflected in his appointments as Register of the Order of the Garter while Dean of Windsor, and Prelate of the Order of St Michael and St George while Bishop of Worcester. He was appointed a Knight Commander of the Victorian Order in 1971 and a Knight Commander of St Michael and St George in 1989 on giving up the prelacy of the order. During his retirement he was an assistant bishop in the diocese of Gloucester. Woods was a big man, with

a booming voice and a great heart, which sometimes made him promise more than he could deliver. This largerthan-life quality also led him to speak of the great and famous in terms that could seem unduly familiar - not for nothing was his nickname "Royal Robin". Nevertheless. he possessed a real concern for Among his lesser-known talents were his musical ability and his skill as an artist. especially with watercolours and in caricature.

He married in 1942 Henrietta ("Etta") Wilson, and throughout his life was a devoted family man. He is survived by his wife, his two dant Churches Committee as sons and three daughters.



PERSONAL COLUMN

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CHRYSANTHEMUMS CLUE IN BLAKE ESCAPE FROM A STAFF REPORTER

In an intensive nation-wide search for George Blake, the spy who escaped from Wormwood Scrubs prison on Saturday, police were concentrating yesterday on ports and airfields. Blake has served five years of 42 years -- the longest imposed in Britain . . . A discreet watch is also being kept on

certain embassies in London, and on their One fear is that a man of Blake's experience.

probably with alien contacts still in Britain may have had his escape abroad well planned. If this was so he may have slipped away before the security net was tightened at sea and airports. Police are hoping for a lead from two clues

 a 15ft rope ladder, its rungs strengthened with knitting needles, which was found on the outside wall of the prison, and a pot of pink chrysanthemums. The pot, wrapped in green paper, was in Artillery Road, near the wall. The flowers were fresh. One theory is that the pot might have been a marker to show where the ladder should be thrown over the wall. Another view is that an accomplice used it to

ON THIS DAY

October 24, 1966 **维型的过度**

Blake. a Diplomatic Service officer, admitted spying at his trial in 1961, part of which was held in camera. He is said to have betrayed at least 42 British agents.

make himself look like a visitor to Hammer-

smith Hospital nearby. An appeal was made on television last night for anyone who could give information about either the ladder or flowers to get in touch with Shepherds Bush police station, where an investigation squad has been set up to study

Chief-superintendent, T Butler, head of the Flying Squad, is in charge, with Commander Evan Jones, head of Scotland Yard Special Branch, in control of inquiries into possible international political links with the escape. Prisoners recently released from Wormwood Scrubs were questioned; so were officers and prisoners in the gaol.

Blake was last seen by prison officials in the 5.30pm roll-call: at 7pm he was missing. A bar in a window in a second-storey landing had been sawn through. The time was carefully chosen. On Sat-urday afternoon prisoners in the long-term

ving, where Blake had his cell, are able to mix freely, and he was not due to be locked up for the night until 7pm.

After getting through the window, he is thought to have made for the wall 20 yards away. Once over the wall he could have crossed Wormwood Scrubs playing fields or gone down to the main road running past the prison and Hammersmith Hospital.

One point likely to be raised is why Blake was being held at Wormwood Scrubs, as one of the 320 long-term prisoners. He had been regarded as a model prisoner. He was not on the "escape list".

The assumption seems to have been that Blake passed over all the information to which he had access, and thus his use to the Russians had gone. This reasoning may also explain why he was not moved to one of the security blocks at Leicester, Durham or Parkhurst . . .

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Shares slide after Hong Kong crash

■ The London stock market suffered its biggest one-day fall since Black Monday — October 16, 1987 — as the shockwaves from an overnight crash in Hong Kong swept round the world. In London the FTSE 100 index closed down 157.3 at 4,991.5.

At one point, the FTSE had plunged 222 points with big falls for companies such as HSBC, which over the past few days has lost its position as Britain's biggest quoted company Page 1

Au pair denies hitting baby

■ The British au pair Louise Woodward, accused of murdering an eight-month old baby in her care, told the jury that she did not ever shake, hit or slam the baby. Miss Woodward, calm, composed and articulate, told the court of how she found Matthew Eappen on February 4, the day on which he was rushed unconscious to hospital.....

Road rage charge

A second-hand car dealer will appear in court charged with the manslaughter of Toby Exley and Karen Martin in a suspected roadPage l rage incident...

Laser pen case

A teenager who shone a dangerous beam into a policeman's eyes became the first person to be charged with assault by a laser

Labour MEP row

Glenys Kinnock inflamed the row over the suspension of four Labour MEPs by accusing them of trying to revive the Labour Party demons her husband Neil hadPage 2 tried to banish

Early start

Lester Piggont's four-year-old son Jamie made his debut on a racecourse demonstating the skills of his pedigree bloodlines.....Page 3 Late arrival

The privatised rail companies have been told that they face

tighter regulation unless they make immediate improvements to their record on train delays.. Page 4 Chocolate war

The European Parliament announced yesterday that the term "milk chocolate" should be outlawed and sales of the British product banned across the European Union until it is tested

Rector sex case

The Rector of Benllech's wife was the mystery third informant who went to his bishop to complain of his affairs with women parishioners, an ecclesiastical court in Wales was toldPage 7

Gypsies save up

Three generations of the Vodraska family of Czech Gypsies are saving to go to Britain, like thousands of others all over

....Page 10 Civil Service savings

The Government has decided to credit civil servants with common sense in a scheme to cut unnecessary paperwork and save millions of pounds a year Page II Hamas ambition

Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, leader of

Hamas, has a one-state solution for the Palestinian problem: an Islamic one, encompassing all

that is now Israel Page 13 Rebel welcomed Crowds poured onto Brazzaville's devastated streets to celebrate at the feet of Congo's rebel General Denis Sassou-Nguesso on his ar-

rival back after five months of Commonwealth doubt

The Queen's continuing role as head of the Commonwealth was unexpectedly thrown into question last night as Tony Blair tried to heal wounds over her visit toPage 5 India last weekPage 16

The fall and rise of ancient Rome

■ With the centre of Rome increasingly clogged by tourist coaches, a business consortium has come up with the answer: a near-life-size copy of ancient Rome in the Umbrian countryside, where tourists can tramp round a duplicate Forum and Colosseum instead of ruining the real thing. They will even be able to witness a massacre of Christians...



The Queen inspects the 1st Battalion, Black Watch, before the opening of the Commonwealth conference in Edinburgh: Page 16

22THEILE

MCI: The American company that BT is trying to merge with, lost \$182 million in the third quarter, compared with a profit of \$304 millionPage 25 a year ago..

Bank of England: Investors who have always fancied themselves as Governor now have their opportunity. The Bank is advertising for sale four regional branches which it closed this yearPage 25

suffered heavy losses after Hong Kong suffered a severe bout of nerves over speculation against the Hong Kong dollar and its effect on the Far East economy Page 25 Markets: The FTSE fell 157.3 to 4991.5. Sterling fell from 102.2 to

101.7. falling from \$1.6350 to \$1.6298

and DM2.9124 to DM2.8921Page 28

A MI CHIMING

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Weather by Fax

A Car reports by fax

New moon October 31

New moon Cooper 3 Landon 5.49 pm to 7.42 am Bristol 5.59 pm to 7.51 am Bristol 5.51 pm to 8.05 am Manchester 5.53 pm to 7.55 am Penzance 6.13 pm to 8.00 am

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Economy: World stock markets

SPORT

Motor racing: Michael Schumacher and Jacques Villenueve promised a clean fight in the race that will decide the destiny of the world Formula One championship in Jerez on Sunday Page 48

Tennés; Jonas Bjorkman proved too strong for Tim Henman in the third round of the Eurocard Open Page 46 in Stuttgart.... Salling: Lawrie Smith, the British-

pointing fourth place in Silk Cut after the first leg of the Whithread Round The World Race ... Page 42 Cricket: Philip Tufnell, the England spin bowler, appears before a disciplinary hearing today after his failure to take a drugs test following the final county championship

vachtsman, is reflecting on a disap-

Matters of fact: Playwrights have

always tried to make a drama out of a political crisis, says Benedict Nightingale, and recently they have had a field day Page 34 Hair-brained: Scissor Happy has

some fun for the West End in the

form of an interactive murder-mystery, wherein the audience must identify the murderer Page 35 Crash barrier: It's uncanny, but Caitlin Moran predicted yesterday's stock-market crash the minute she saw that lots of pop

stars are currently appearing in

... Page 36 Self control: As he gets set for a British tour, Loudon Wainwright III talks about his first love (himself), his painful quest for the truth. match of the seasonPage 45 and his comic songs......Page 37

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

Oasis topped the All-time

Album Poll ... now you

can win the Top 100 CDs,

and the Top 30 books

Elton John talks about

his new gardens, which

he values above all else

the Top 50 videos

■ WEEKEND

METRO

Mind your language: The French

berry hails the perennial masculine. appeal of the pinstripe suit Page 18

reports on the head of a girls comprehensive.

Meeting needs: Estelle Morris, an education minister, explains the proposals in the Green Paper that will help children with special . Page 39

Russia's democratic system may benefit if Yeltsin and the Government make a more serious attempt to work with the Duma rather than just trying to ride roughshod over it. Yet Yeltsin will be rightly seen as agenda to which he has given his personal imprimatur

Girts will be boys: Grace Brad-

boarding school who spent a week teaching in an East London .. Page 39

- The Moscow Times

Choosing an au pair: As unease about nannies grows. Matthew Beard looks at the best way to find the right match for your family'sPage 19

have the Académie Française: do we need a language tsar to guard our grammar and expel foreign

Blackboard Jungle: Susan Elkin

RADIO & TV

James's An Unsuitable-Job for a Woman (ITV, 9.00pm) Review: Marthew Bond dismayed by Carol Vorderman popping up again in Just One Chance Pages 46, 47

Preview: Helen Baxendale in P.D.

OPINION

Blair's Commonwealth

It now needs to demonstrate that its rules are taken extremely seriously. That means tough decisions on Nigeria and a frank warning to Kenya's increasingly repressive President Moi.... .Page 21

Harrying Harriet

Baiting Harriet Harman has become a favourite sport of MPs, old and new. Commentators love to criticise her too ______Page 21 ...Page 21

Roman holiday

The project to build a Roman theme park is merely the latest in a iong series of attempts to rediscover our Roman heritage...... Page 21

MATTHEW PARRIS

First-past-the-post usually gives us government by one party and by a unified team. Systems of proportional representation will more often produce government by coalition which offer more scope for the vetoing of proposed decisions. in the terminology of binary decisiontaking coalitions sharpen more pencils to tick the "No" box Page 20

3.

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and Wall Sife

retreat actions

JANET BUSH Anxious queues formed outside

banks in Hong Kong as the stock market crashed, offering an ageold symbol of financial disaster. But the good people of Hong Kong were lining up not to withdraw their money but to switch to higher-yielding accounts Page 20 PHILIP HOWARD

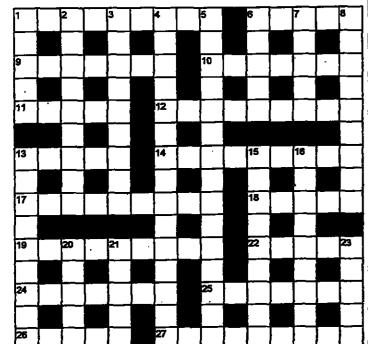
Friends and loves, we have none.

Nor wealth, nor blest abo-ode, But the Hope, the Burning Hope, and the Road, the open Ro-o-oad . . ." Roma are romantic until they park. Then it's NOGIMBY - No Gypsies In My Back Yard Page 20

Harold French, stage actor and director; Sir Reginald Murley, surgeon; Right Rev Robin Woods Bishop of Worcester Page 23

Global warming: Van Dyck: Falklands; prostate cancer test; pub worship; propaganda Page 21

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,619



ACROSS I Casual success comes to golden giri (3-2-4).

6 Disconcerted by pronouncement 9 Piece of music with wrong for Beecham, say (7).

10 State musicians collected awards 11 Play receiving notice creep pro-12 Meat cut out, of course, protect-

ing one carrying baby (9). 13 Right in the head, but talk foolishly (5). 14 Rheingold almost confused with

name of another opera (9). 17 Where to go for a good time and when not to, perhaps (2,3.4). 18 Minister found wartime bomb by

vehicle (5). 19 Top band appearing where ambassador lives? (9).

Solution to Puzzle No 20.618

22 Opens mouth, boasting about school subject (5). 24 General reception in Rome for impostor, Kipling said (7).

25 Firemen thus engaged containing

fire M. 26 Church always providing comfort After short break, pressing and coming back powerfully (9).

End of tooth a little bent (5).

2 What could matter be with nag. such as this one? (9). Flowing sea at point where char-

ter party gathered (9). 4 Bare interior to restore as a team (2.3.10). 5 Torture on rack might create stir

abroad (7,4,4). 6 Board wants data neatly presented (5). 7 Repetitive movement as north pole goes round and round (5).

produces no central character (9). 13 Looking to the future, support the revolutionary in charge (9). 15 Plotter giving way to a raving lunatic (9).

8 We're almost admitting novelist

i6 Getting one's own back (9). 20 Ram switches feet, going to get up

21 Refuse modest cut (5). 23 Lovable fool, perhaps (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 48

SUPPORT RECYCLING: jed paper made up 3 6% of the raw mate

L) General: Southwest England and some eastern coasts of England will be cloudy but Wales, Northern Ireland and the rest of England will be fine. Early fog peakches with stowly sit, leaving plenty of sunstrine. North and northeastern Soutland will have a few showers, and snow flumes are possible in Shettand. Southern and western Soutland should stay dry. The Irish Republic will be dry with surmy shells.

dry with surmy spells.
Tonight, clear skies will lead to trost and

Midlands: Mostly dry and sunny. Light NE breeze. Max 12C (54F).

Lattes, IoM, N Ireland: Fog clearing to give a surny day. Light E breeze. Max 12C (54F).

Channel Is, SW England: Circum the dry Maximum. London, SE, Cent S England, ☐ Channel Is, SW England: Cloudy but dry. Moderate E wind. Max 13C (55F). ☐ E Anglie, E, Cent N, NE England:

Sunny spells after early cloud, Light N wind. Mex 10C (50F). Borders, Edinburgh & Dunder: Cloudy, then surny spells, Light veriable wind. Max 9C (48F).

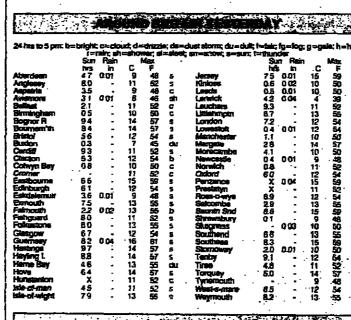
Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland: light showers, moderate N or NW wind, Max 9C (489). 9C (48F).

SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Hightends, Argylt sunny after early frost and fog. Cloud in north later Light vensible wind. Max 10C (50F).

Orthory, Shettand: showers becoming wintry. Moderate NW wind, freshering later. Max 6C (43F).

Republic of trelend: Dry: Cloudy at times but sunny periods. Cooling moderate SE wind. Max 12C (54F).

☐ Outlook: Hazy surshine in most areas; cold at night with fog patches. Showers in northeast Scotland.



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INSIDE **SECTION** TODAY



ECONOMICS

Anatole Kaletsky says ignore EMU prophets of doom PAGE 29



EDUCATION

How marketing widened the pupil-catching net **PAGE 39**



SPORT

Lord's sits in judgment on Tufnell **PAGES 41-48**

fall

around

world

points loss in the market's

history although in percentage

terms the 10 per cent decline was eclipsed by the 33 per cent fall suffered in 1987 (Alasdair

The Hong Kong collapse had a domino effect across the

globe. The Nikkei index in

Tokyo slipped 3 per cent while

Japanese stocks traded in

ued to plummet after Tokyo's

close. The market in Singapore

fell by 5.43 per cent as over-

night rates soared to 50 per cent to protect the beleagured Sin-

gaporean dollar. Australia,

which sells half of its exports to

the Asian region, was also caught in the fallout. The All

Ordinaries index slumped 68

points, or 2.53 per cent, to

2,614.9, while the Australian

dollar also came under attack. The FISE 100 slumped 222

points before recovering slight-

ly to finish down 157.3 points at

4,991.5. The London decline

was matched in New York, and

European markets were also

trend despite few direct trade

connections with Hong Kong. France's CAC-40 lost 3.42 per cent, while the Ibis-DAX in

Frankfurt fell 3.6 per cent.

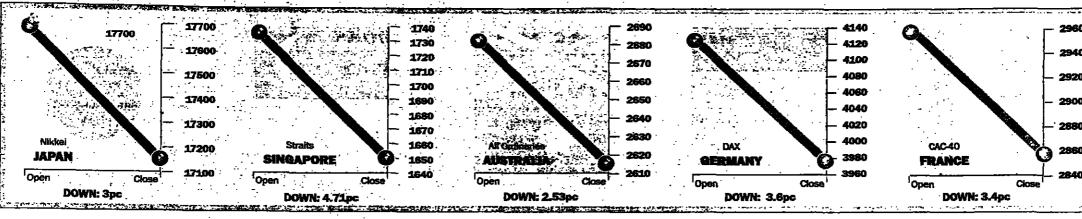
Murray writes).

TELEVISION AND **RADIO PAGES** 46, 47

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

FRIDAY OCTOBER 24 1997

From the Far East, Australia and Europe, it's down all the way



Hong Kong turmoil heads West

Share prices in London and Wall Street join the retreat across the globe

THE collapse in share prices is expected to resume in London today after heavy overnight falls on Wall Street. The Dow Jones industrial average lost more than 200 points in afternoon trading after the crash in Hong Kong stocks spilled over to

global markets. London traders had been hoping Wall Street would act as a prop to world markets. Instead, its lack of resilience added to the turmoil Sharp price movements in London were exacerbated by the new computerised trading system. reaction to the Government's ooor handling of European monetary union.

City brokers gave a mixed reaction to the market turmoil. Martin Lupton, head of retail services at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the broker, said: The market was due a correction. The situation was exacerbated by the new order-driven system. I don't think its blown itself out yet. People are still a bit shell-shocked."

However, the crash was welcomed by PDFM, the pension fund manager that has been criticised for shifting much of its portfolio inte cash. PDFM has taken a consistently bearish view about world stock market levels. A "greatly relieved" senior executive said: "Everything we have been expecting to happen is begin-

ning to happen." He expressed incredulity, that some commentators were still arguing that the problems in Asia are a little local difficulty.

He added: "It's now one big financial market out there. Financial problems flow around the world. When there's dislocation in one market, it will have repercussions elsewhere." The fund manager said

PDFM hopes the crash will continue. "It's been a great feeling for the last week or two. Our performance has turned around pretty dramati-

Stock	(ma	rket	P	age 28
Fina	ncial	fall-ou	t P	

cally." PDFM has not held any stake in HSBC Holdings, the bank which has recently lost 30 per cent of its value. Richard Jeffrey, economist

at Charterhouse, the merchant bank, believes yesterday's shakeout goes deeper than the crisis in the Far East. He said: "Events may also have been prompted by City reaction to the health of the domestic economy. People are worried about it overheating and the market is now starting

But it was not just the equity market which is likely to cause

jointly with GTE.

for concern. Mr Jeffrey said: "Gilts are looking vulnerable. They are exposed to any bad news in the economy which may prompt the Governor of the Bank of England to raise interest rates."

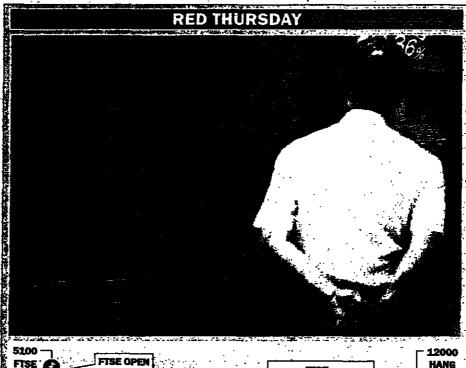
Panic in London spilled over into Wall Street, with the Dow Jones industrial average turnbling almost 180 points on opening. The Dow fell after trading closed in London, down nearly 230 points at one stage. In London, the FTSE 100 Index was down 222 points

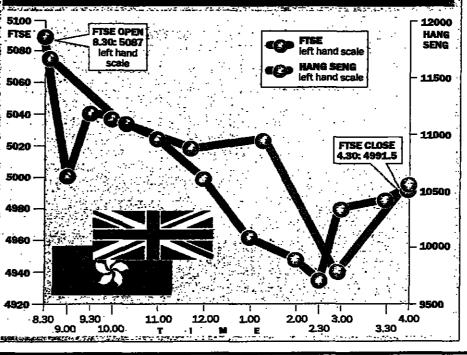
cent down at 4,9915.

Overnight the Hang Seng had tumbled a further 1,211 points to 10.426 as the crisis deepened, stretching the loss in the former colony so far this week to almost 25 per cent. The crisis in Hong Kong

saw HSBC toppled from its perch as the biggest UK company by market capitalisation. now goes to BP. HSBC, which saw its shares hit £23.47 earlier in the summer, hit a low of £15.40 before rallying to end 160p lower at £16.06. What should have been

Hong Kong's most sensational new share listing, the \$4 billion China Telecom (Hong Kong) issue, ended its first day at HK\$10.55 a share, down HK\$1.13 or 9.67 per cent from the issue price of HK\$11.68.





BUSINESS **TODAY**



Lanica's latest disposal

LANICA TRUST, the investment vehicle of Andrew Regan, the failed Co-op bidder, revealed yesterday that it has sold its last significant asset for El.

It received the payment for its 55 per cent stake in the Select Catalogues mail order venture run with Naafi, the Armed Forces' trading division. Lanica bought into the venture for £162,500 last November.

It said that its relationship with Naafi had been soured by bad publicity, making it impossible for the two sides, who had planned an AIM flotation for Select, to agree on how to fund the business. As a result, Select risked insolvency and, Lanica claims, it was forced to sell its stake in Select for the £1 plus some deferred considerations if the business is sold, floated or makes a profit before 2001.

A spokesman for the company said that it was still trying to get its shares, which have been suspended since February, relisted. The Stock Ex-change is believed to be reluctant to agree to this until a Serious Fraud Office investigation into a deal between the Coop and Hobson, a company once run by Mr Regan, is complete.

The liquidator of Galileo the company set up by Mr Regan for the £1.2 billion attempt earlier this year to take over the Co-operative Wholesale Society - said yesterday that he was still considering whether to take legal action against Hambros Bank for offering poor advice to Mr Regan during the bid.

BT boosted by MCI losses and WorldCom share price

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

MCI, the US telecoms group that is the subject of a three-way multibillion-dollar battle invoving BT, GTE and WorldCom, yesterday reported a third-quarter loss of \$383 million (£220 million).

The positions of GTE and BT in the fight were also strengthened. when WorldCom's share price dropped below the critical \$34 mark Below \$34. WorldCom will not pay the full \$41.50 per MCI share in its stock swap offer. GTE is offering \$40 per share in

cash. BT already owns a 20 per cent MCI stake and, under a scenario likely to be considered in negotia-

tions, could end up owning MCI

MCI reported profits of \$132 million in the quarter, excluding a \$515 million charge to cover losses in the local phone sector. Analysts had been predicting a figure just below the \$130 million mark and said the

charge could be \$600 million.

An MCI spokesman said: "We exceeded expectations, and that just shows the underlying strength in our core businesses." MCI doubled earnings in Internet services, a sector in which GTE and

WorldCom are very strong.

Douglas Maine, MCI's finance

director, gave warning that it could take another charge in the final quarter, but it would not be as high. MCI and BT have signed confi-

dentiality pacts with GTE and WorldCom in anticipation of one of their bids turning hostile. The MCI spokesman said: "We may not be in a friendly situation later. Someone could use confidential information we gave them against us." -

Yesterday, the two suitors were on best behaviour at the first round of detailed negotiations. Sir Iain Vallance, the BT chairman, and Sir Peter Bonfield, chief executive, attended but would not comment.

Bank of England regional branches could go for £10m

By Jason Nissė

INVESTORS who have always fancied themselves as the Governor their chance. The Bank is advertising for sale four regional branches that it closed this year.

The properties - in Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester and Newcastle include high-security bank vaults, plush offices and frontages proudly displaying the name "Bank of England. Their market value could exceed £10 million.

The regional branches hark back to the days when the Bank actually operated as a bank. Hundreds of businesses and high-net-worth indi-

viduals had accounts with the Bank, which had an extensive network of branches that also collected information about the economy of the

regions.

However, the role of the Bank. which was nationalised in 1945, has changed in recent years. Today, most of the customers of the Bank

are current and former employees. Until the beginning of this decade the bank had seven branches. It sold its Liverpool and Southampton branches a couple of years ago. Last year it decided to change its regional network completely. All but the Leeds branch have now been closed,

to be replaced by a network of 12 regional agents, which maintain contacts with local businesses and provide information used by the Monetary Policy Committee to de-

cide whether to put up interest rates. The Leeds offices are being turned into a regional money centre, which will be used to distribute banknotes

to banks in the north of England.

A Bank spokesman said that there had been a great deal of interest in the Birmingham and Bristol sites. "Bristol has the most amazing vaults," he said. "It would suit somebody with some high-

With every Business Class seat we throw in a sofa.

Only British Midland offers separate Business Class lounges for all UK and European flights from Heathrow.

British Midland The Airline for Europe

EMU first wave 'too

early for the banks'

A WARNING that the cost of converting computers to deal with European Monetary Union will be higher than that for

dealing with the so-called millennium bug was issued by ICL,

the technology group. This follows a survey of 87 British

retail financial services companies that suggests only 4 per cent have actually prepared themselves for EMU, and that

more than one quarter had not started their preparations.

Tim Escudier, president of the financial services side of

ICL, will tell a conference on EMU at the Royal Institute of

Institutional Affairs, that the UK's high street banks.

building societies and insurance companies, simply would

not have been able to cope if the UK had gone into EMU in

the first wave. He will add that the financial cost of

monetary union has largely been underestimated. ICL's

research echoes recent comments by Barclays Bank, which concluded that British industry was not ready for early

CADBURY SCHWEPPES, the soft drinks and confectionery company, is in talks to buy La Pie Qui Chante, the French sugar confectionery business based in Lille. La Pie Qui

Chante is the second largest sugar confectionery company in France, with sales of Fr542 million (about ESS 9 million) in

1996. Cadbury said the purchase would make it third in the

French sweet market and second in sugar confectionery. The

French sweet market is the seventh-largest in the world.

News Corp buyback

Cadbury talks French

to step up

BRITISH AIRWAYS is stepping up operations from London Gatwick next summer, introducing Boeing 777s on routes to America and creating nearly 500 new cabin crew and customer service jobs. Capacity at Gatwick will

through the expansion. which will see new routes to holiday destinations in America, Latin America and the Caribbean. First class is being introduced on routes to Barbados, Orlando, Antigua, St Lu-cia, Grenada, the Seychelles and Mauritius. The programme is backed by a £12 million package of improvements, including extra check-in desks and

haggage facilities. BA is expanding its arrangement with Airline Management Limited (AMI), a joint venture with the Flying Colours leisure group, but will keep the 777s for its mainline BA fleet AML, which took on the former British Caledonian routes, will fly DCl0s made up in BA colours, carrying the BA flight prefix, and crewed by BA flight crew and

AML cabin crew. AML will operate four weekly flights on behalf of BA to Kingston and Mon-tego Bay. It will also operate new services to Cancun in Mexico, Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic and Tobago. From February, BA 777s will replace DC10s to Dallas-Fort Worth, Atlanta and Bermuda.

it had been speculated that BA was seeking to parcel out the rump of its holiday routes to a lowcost operator - part of the move to a so-called "virtual airline". This has been repeatedly denied by Bob Ayling, BA's chief executive, who said that yesterday's announcement "demonstrates yet again our commitment to Gatwick, and reinforces our strategy of developing the airport as a complementarv Heathrow"

Decline in lending by banks signals spending slowdown

ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BANK lending to the personal sector fell sharply in September, providing further evidence that the pace of the consumer boom is slowing. Figures from the British Bankers Association (BBA) show total personal lending declined from £1.13 billion to £860 million while consumer credit lending slipped from

E423 million in August to £136 million last month. Tim Sweeney, director-gen-eral of the BBA, said the

Building

societies

defeated

over tax

By George Sivell,

THREE building societies yes-terday lost an £81.75 million

tax battle with the Treasury in

the European Court of Hu-

The National and Provin-

cial, the Leeds Permanent and

the Yorkshire Building Society

claimed that a change in British tax law was illegal

because it stopped them going to court to fight for tax refunds

which had been granted to the

The Inland Revenue said it

with the outcome" and drew

attention to a comment from

the European Court that the

changes in the law were

clearly in line with Parlia-

The Woolwich successfully

recouped £70 million from the

Treasury because it claimed

the money was a transitional

tax wrongly levied through an

anomaly between the British

fiscal year and the former

building society's account year.

But by the time the other

three societies followed suit,

the law on how building

society interest is taxed had

been changed under the 1991

Finance Act and declared ret-

roactive. Only societies that

challenged the transitional ar-

1986, were allowed to pursue

ements before July 18.

ment's original intention.

"absolutely delighted

Woolwich in an earlier case.

man Rights.

hecause of reporting changes and the inclusion of newly converted banks, but appeared "noticeably weaker than of late".

The lending component of M4. the measure of broad money supply, also declined on an underlying basis which excludes gilt repo trans-actions — from £7.7 billion in August to £2.1 billion last

But the overall growth rate of M4 accelerated unexpectedly, increasing 1 per cent be-

BANKING CORRESPONDENT

ABBEY NATIONAL yester

day named Ian Harley, its fin-

ance director, as successor to

Peter Birch, its chief executive,

who will retire next February.

Mr Harley, 47, joined the

board in 1993 and has worked

for the bank for 20 years. He

said he would continue Mr.

Birch's strategy of expansion

in the financial services mar-

ket while reducing unit costs.

He also raised the prospect of returning up to £500 million

of excess capital to sharehold-

ers. In the absence of an ac-

quisition or rapid organic growth. Mr Harley said, he

would not be opposed to a

When Abbey National con-

verted from a building society

in 1989, its first-tier capital

ratio, a regulatory measure of solvency, was 12.5 per cent. Today it stands at 8 per cent.

but I would like to reduce that

further to 7.25 per cent by 1999,"

Mr Harley said. That implies

a surplus of between £500

Commenting on reports of

Abbey National's aborted

merger with NatWest earlier

this year. Mr Harley said his

bank would be concerned

about losing its identity in such

a big deal. However, he did not

rule out acquisitions of his

own, noting life assurance and

nesses as preferred targets.

ement bus

In its autumn trading state- sharp drop in new business in

retail fund mana

million and £600 million."

share buyback.

from 11.6 per cent to 11.8 per cent — well above the Bank of England's former monitoring range of 3 to 9 per cent.

A new statistical collection system and a re-definition of some of the components of M4 and BBA data are causing distortions to the figures, lead-ing the Bank of England to give a warning that the data will be prone to heavy revi-

sions in the next few months. Simon Briscoe, director of research at Nikko Europe, said: "Allowing for the addi-tion of the new banks, person-

Finance director steps up

to head Abbey National

Abbey National's Peter Birch, left, and Ian Harley

ment, Abbey National said it the first half of the year. The had recovered some of its bank also said the inflow of

savings had improved with

the end of lock-ins at convert-

Final offer

rejected

by dockers

By George Sivell,

THE long-running Mersey Docks dispute is to continue

after the Liverpool workers

rejected a final offer from the

ballot to turn down the money from the Mersey Docks and

Harbour Company, and the offer of 40 jobs. The company, whose shares fell from 4532p to 431p, said it would keep open the offer until Monday. The dispute began in Sep-tember 1995 after 329 dockers

refused to cross a picket line

another company in the Port of Liverpool. Directors expect some of the men to accept after receiving an undisclosed number of phone calls from dock-

ers yesterday, while recruiment will begin to fill some of the 40 vacancies. Mersey Docks said: "There

will be no further negotiations and the offer will be formally withdrawn. But we don't want

to leave those individuals who wish to accept a settlement without a chance to get out of a

A dockers' leader described the ballot result as a "great victory" and pledged that their

hopeless situation.

campaign would go on.

company of £28,000 each. The Liverpool dockers voted by 213 to 97 in a secret postal

ing building societies.

share of the mortgage market

in the third quarter, after a

the lowest level of the year." David Bloom, UK economist at James Capel, added that the distortions to the monetary data, combined with large one off impacts on the most recent retail sales figures, had complicated the policy outlook

for interest rates. The BBA data show total bank lending increased from £2.33 to £2.58 billion although the latest figures included the Alliance & Leicester, Halifax and Woolwich banks for the first time.

(BSA) suggested that the housing market remains strong, despite a slight slowdown in September.

The value of new commitments slipped from £2.2 billion in August to £2.1 billion while the number of net new commitments fell from 31,000

However, Adrian Coles, director-general of the BSA, said net advances were running at just 5 per cent less than last year despite the conversion of a number of leading building societies to banks.

TUC looks to role as pensions

TRADE UNIONS are considering a move into the pensions market. Union leaders agreed this week to examine the possibility of unions becoming pension providers, and offering advice to their seven million members in Britain on

which scheme to buy.

John Monks, General Secretary of the TUC, said yesterday that the move had been agreed at a two-day strategy meeting of the governing general council in Bournemouth. Signalling the move yester-

day in a speech to business leaders at the annual conference in Harrogate of the Institute of Personnel and Development, Mr Monks said unions were examining the potential for filling the gap between the limited pension provision the state would offer and companies' increasing moves away from fully-fund-

The move reflects a concern that the Labour Government is not going to maintain a commitment to traditionally funded state pensions, as well as a determination to prevent members losing out again from mis-selling of schemes by private-sector companies.

At the same time pension companies are likely to press hard for union endorsement of their schemes to strengthen market share. The unions have already been in contact with Unity Trust, the trade union-backed bank, on their pension proposals. Pensions would build on the TUC's move into providing energy at discounted prices through its

Union Energy company.
Union leaders believe that a move into pensions -- widely practised by unions in coun-tries like the US — would add value to union membership and improve recruitment.

A PRIZE DRAW

provider

BY PHILLP BASSETT INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

> THE News Corporation, the international media group whose interests include The Times, yesterday gave formal notice of its intention to buy back for cancellation up to a total of more than 200 million preference shares, costing a maximum of A\$1.3 billion (about £557 million). News Corp said the buyback would be conducted over a six-month period and it reserves the right to amounce a further buyback should it fall to acquire the proposed number of shares.

entry into EMU in 1999.

Banco di Roma bid fails

A £614 million bid by a Russian-led consortium for control of Banco di Roma, one of Italy's largest banks, has been rejected by IRI, the Italian state industrial holding company. However, the consortium, led by MES, a Russian oil and consumer goods group, was told it was welcome to take part in the forthcoming privatisation of the loss-making bank. MES is a joint-stock holding company with an annual turnover of more than £L2 billion.

Thomas takes 'sabbatical

WARD THOMAS, the chairman of Yorkshire-Tyne Tees Television, has decided not to become chairman of Granada Media Group, the recently merged Granada-Yorkshire business. Mr Thomas, 74, had earlier agreed to become GMG chairman. He has now decided that he wants a "sabbatical". In a letter to Charles Allen, Granada's chief executive, Mr Thomas said that he had been involved in television for so long that "I am sure I will want to return to the fray before long".

Cammell in yard talks

CAMMELL LAIRD, the shipbuilding group floated off on the stock market in July, revealed yesterday that it was in talks with the Government of Gibraltar to become the operator for the Gibraltar ship repair complex. John Stafford. chief executive of Cammell Laird, said they would look to develop the yard's activities into the cruise and ferry sectors, together with the conversion and repair of specialist vessels. Cammell Laird shares fell from 155p to 1512p.

RTI seeks £5m at float

RTI, a loss-making Dublin company that has developed an easy-to-use keypad for retailers' point-of-sale systems, is seeking to raise £5 million for its sales drive by listing on the Alternative Investment Market. The PasKeyboard, which is being installed by Moss Bros, uses keys with built-in LCD panels offering cashiers and other users a changing series of options. RTI, which is being advised by English Trust, claims its keyboard speeds transaction processing and reduces training costs.

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FOUR FARELOUS CARSIOBEWON

his month The Times has teamed up with The Sunday Times and Churchill Insurance to offer readers the. chance to win one of four exciting cars worth around £20,000 each.

The Lotus Elise, above, is one of the

most exciting cars of recent years. technically innovative with fabulous styling and incredible handling.

Syle of an off prader but the practicality and easy driving of a saloon. The VR6 is the raciest Volkswagen Golf of them all, sesy in black with black leather interior. and the Espace is for serious weekend drivers, diesel powered for maximum fuel savnes on long countrys with the shie



and Hang Seng indices. With Tokyo locked in its own gloom,

an Eastern threat was only likely

Now the territory's dollar par-

ity, which attracted support from

George Soros a few weeks ago, has been challenged and the territory's market-wise bosses

have reacted with as much

bluster as Malaysia's national-

ists. Beijing will not have been amused to see its flagship launch

of China Telecom shares end 10

The battle will be costly, especially if high money costs last long enough to puncture a bloated property market. Having

triggered a rethink, however, Hong Kong's affairs should not affect the West much further.

The calculation here is now

about the extent and timing of

further rises in German and American interest rates, and the

ability of firms to keep growing

earnings without ever more du-bious deals. Across the Channel, Frankfurt and related markets

have been waiting for the drop, having failed to regain earlier peaks in recent upswings. In London, the FTSE 100's next stop

for reflection should be around

4,800, making a 10 per cent drop from the recent 5,330 peak, but

to filter West via Hong Kong.

on't count on that crash just yet. The chances still are that fund managers who backed London shares at the start of 1997 will end the year looking smarter than those who waited with increasing desperation for things to go wrong. Western stock markets have

A DOUBLE

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me Corp hurbad

rum di Romabija

A THE PERSON AND A SECTION

been in a state for weeks. That tenth anniversary of the 1987 crash means nothing but made it impossible to ignore the fact that shares have again grown over-valued in New York, London and much of continental Europe.

Overvalued, that is, by their own historic standards. Corporate America has been selling at 26 times its annual profits after a long continuous expansion, and corporate Britain at 20 times earnings six years after the recession. Investors had adjusted to lower interest rates as inflation was pricked. The debate, still far

from settled, is whether profits can still keep raging ahead.

In this atmosphere; any sound of breaking glass is guaranteed to jangle the markets' collective to the set of a nerves. It is liable to set off a "correction" that could end up somewhere wholly incorrect.

The Asian tigers crisis in August tested the nerves but the Western markets held. Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur were a long way off and their problems had little echo here, Hong Kong was always different. It is a more mature market, with closer links to the West, to the extent that

Made in Hong Kong



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

New York, the Dow is testing August support levels. If the bears take hold, and start interpreting news negatively, a heavy correction could take the bluechip average down a further 20

per cent by year end.

Even if that happens, investors in the US market would break even on the year. And the point of such corrections is to avoid long bear markets, allowing shares to resume a more stately progress.

Underground movement

n South Yorkshire yesterday, there was the whiff of rebellion. At a conference on the future of the coal industry, it became apparent that more than a few Labour MPs may be brave enough to push the Government to support the coal industry.

Their decision to peep over the parapet of new Labour rectitude

less than 4 per cent from here. In is hardly likely to force a change of the policy so eloquently de-fined by the Energy Minister John Battle earlier this week, when he said that the problems facing Britain's biggest pit owner, Richard Budge, were all

> Since ministers happily have their seats in constituencies unencumbered with mines, the Cabinet may share his lack of sympathy. Those MPs connected with mining constituencies may feel it politic with the folks back home to make a fuss, but, with an election several years away.

an election several years away, their chance of influencing government policy is negligible.
But just how deeply into the clothes of the Tory party can new Labour snuggle before the seams begin to split? This week we learned that the Commonwealth Development Corporation is to be privatised. Not all the share will be sold; there will be a will be sold; there will be a golden share as a token of respect towards preserving this most

well-intentioned organisation from the worst ravages of capital-ism, but, however disguised, the plan is for partial privatisation. Since the CDC is not an organisation close to the hearts of

old Labour, or most voters of any complexion, shunting it into the private sector could be done without too much hostility. More intriguing is the reaction

that might greet any attempt to do the same with the London Underground But the Government faces a pressing problem with the transport system which is crucial to keeping the capital functioning. The Underground has been deprived of adequate investment for decades and, with huge amounts of resources now having to be diverted into the Jubilee Line Extension, its need for new money is reaching crisis point. Currently, like CDC, London Underground is prohibited from going into the market and borrowing the cash it needs so it is working hard to tie up

fashionable PFI deals to fund such essentials as ticketing machines. Very soon, however, the Government will have to deter-mine a structure which will allow the organisation to have the capital injection it needs for survival. Partial privatisation is one possibility. How would that go down with the South East's crop of Labour MPs?

Barclays deal is too much to credit

hey may not be the happiest of couples at the moment but rumours of a split between Lord Alexander of Weedon and Derek Wanless seem wide of the mark. According to the gossips, the chairman and chief executive of NatWest are in various stages of distress. ranging from not speaking to each other to being on the brink of committing boardroom hara-

Temporary disagreements as they try to sort out NatWest's problems seem likely, if not inevitable, but these two now stand or fall as a team and their investors seem prepared to give them a few months more to do either. Chips Kruger has been

charged with finding a strategy for NatWest Markets and the likelihood is that he will continue carving off bits on the Barclays model, with international debt management, although it cost the bank dearly in terms of cash ing with the group.

and reputation last year, remain-The main focus of attention, however, is likely to be on the core banking business, where NatWest is strong and will want to get stronger via the addition, perhaps, of a demutualised building society since its talks with Prudential came to nought.

But surely we can forget talk of deal with Barclays. Together they would account for almost half the small business clients in the country, a third of all current accounts and around 40 per cent of credit cards issued. Those figures would be a formidable obstacle to put before the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Putting the Boots in

INNOCENT retailers will be reaching for the smelling salts today when they learn of dreadful goings on in north London. Apparently Safeway, Boots and even the saintly John Lewis Partnership were furtive backers of a campaign to stop Sainsbury winning planning permission for a new superstore in the area. Their concerns were, of course, entirely environmental. But when a market reaches saturation point, things can turn nasty.

ICI pursues switch in its chemical mix

IMPERIAL Chemical Industries intends to make further progress in disposing of industrial chemicals businesses in the next six months as it continues its switch towards more profitable areas, such as flavourings and fragrances.

City estimates suggest that ICI may be able to raise £2.5 billion as it withdraws from areas such as ethylene, methanol, chlorines and fertilisers. The methanol business, centred on ICI's Billingham plant, is thought to be a priority after being hit by producin its first results since com-

pleting the £5 billion purchase of Unilever's specialty chemicals businesses, ICI reported quarter pre-tax profits of £132 million before exceptional items. Profits would have been up 8 per cent but for damage done by the strength of the pound, which cut almost £50 million from third-quarter trading profits. Sir Ronald Hampel, chair-

man, said the specialty division, which takes in ICI's existing performance chemicals business, made a strong contribution of £95 million.

Profits from National Starch were well up on last year, and profits were significantly up at Quest, another business bought from Unilever.

The nine-month total for ICI's pre-tax profits is £292 million, down from £498 million last year. However, the results also include one-off profits of £478 million, mostly from the gain on the £1 billion sale of ICI Australia. The company also made a £23 million profit on selling its Millbank headquarters. However, it in-curred E31 million of charges because of the rapid refinancing of the borrowing facilities arranged to pay for the Unilever acquisition.

Coatings, which includes the Dulux paints business, made unchanged quarterly trading profits of £53 million. It would have seen a 12 per cent rise but for currencies. The polyester and tioxide businesses being sold to DuPont of the US remained un-

profitable in difficult markets. Sir Ronald said that benefits of ICI's shift towards marketdriven activities needing less capital were increasingly clear.

Tempus, page 28

Canadian Overseas Packaging Industries Limited

Notice of the Thirty-Sixth Annual Meeting of Shareholders

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Thirty-Shift Annual Meeting of Shareholdeze of Canadian Overseas Peckaging industries Limited will be heki at Sula 3500, 1 Piece Vila Marie; Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3B 4M4 by the 2nd day of Decembe 1997 at 11.30 a.m. for the following

of the Directors and the consolid francial statements of the Comostion and its subsidiaries for the year ended June 30, 1997 together with the report of the Auditors thereon; 2. to elect Directors:

attend the foregoing meeting are requested to complete and return their form of presty to the appropriate hours before the time appointed for the holding of the said meeting.

Peckention of Dividend The Directors have declared the red at the close les on November 14,1997.

75 Canadian cents per share for The payment data for the dividend is

ber 5 1997. The dividend will related to the recistered address of a October 24, 1997

By order of the Board Florestaved Office Mailing A

Suite 1212, One Branswick Square Saint John, New Brunswitz

Millennium and EMU will hurt, says Reuters

BY RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

REUTERS, the news and information group, said it would face a double blow in the next couple of years from the imperatives" of both the millennium bug and European monetary union.

The company said yesterday it was unable to say precisely what the cost would be although it will clearly be șignificant_

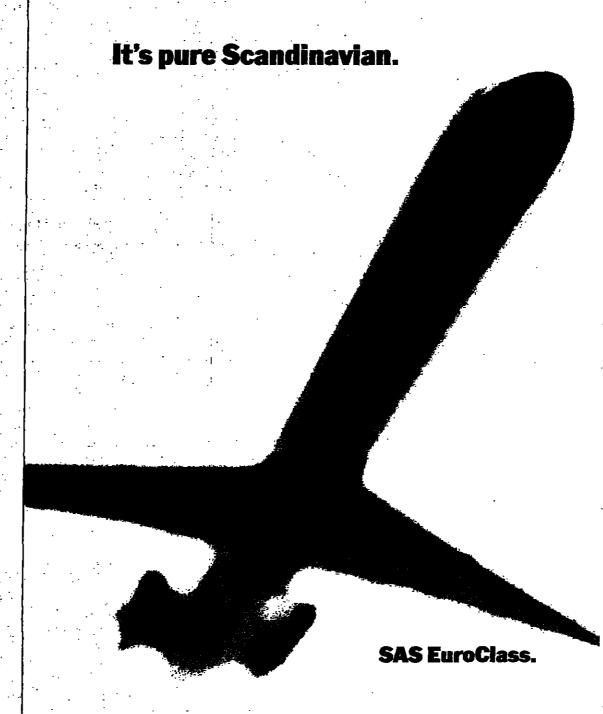
Peter Job, chief executive, said in a trading statement for the third quarter that the milleonium and EMU were "likely to require significant diversion of effort to upgrade some products and phase out

older ones".

Although the millennium time bomb will partly be used as an opportunity to introduce new systems, a high propor-tion of the 400,000 Reuter terminals in the marketplace will require modification.

The effect of EMU is less clear cut. Some business will contract, at least in the shortterm as some currencies disappear, but there could be an upsurge in trading in the euro seamst the dollar and other leading currencies.

Underlying third-quarier revenue rose 8 per cent, compared with the same period last year. Actual revenue feli 3 per cent to £713 million (£736 million) mainly because of the strong pound. The nine month figure showed similiar features. Underlying growth was 8 per cent but actual growth fell 2 per cent to £2.12 billion (£2.17 billion).







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MICHAEL CLARK

Hong Kong fall shocks New York and London

Hong Kong stock market's biggest one-day fall were felt on both sides of the Atlantic. Heavy losses were seen in London and New York as share prices were marked savagely lower in reaction to the Far East currency crisis.

Hopes that New York could halt the worldwide slide as trading got under way yesterday afternoon were quickly dashed as the Dow Jones industrial average plunged 177

points at one stage.

Overnight the Hang Seng had tumbled a further 1.211 points to 10.426.0 as the crisis deepened. It stretched the week's loss in the former colony so far to almost 25 per

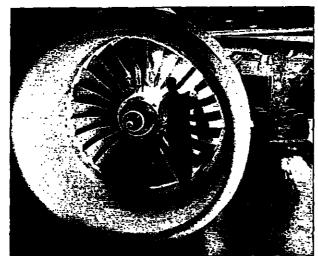
At its worst, the FTSE 100 index was down 222 points as it became clear that Wall Street was not the prop for world markets that many traders had been pinning their hopes on. The Dow tumbled almost 180 points. In London. the index reduced the deficit by close to 157.3, at 4,991.5, a fall of 3 per cent.
Some brokers gave warning

that further blood-letting may be required before the storm blows itself out. Others took heart from the fact that funds that had been destined for the Far East were now likely to be diverted to London, Europe and the US.

Yesterday's losses were exacerbated by Sets, the new computerised trading system. Dealers said that part of yesterday's fall also reflected a delayed reaction to the Government's poor handling of the EMU situation. Volume levels were again on the low side, with just 934 million shares changing hands by the close of business.

HSBC touched £15.40 before rallying to end the session 1560 down at £16.10, with the help of some encouraging words from Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the broker, which has reiterated its "buy" recommendation. Standard around 75 per cent of its earnings from the Far East. lost 26'2p at 689'2p. There were also setbacks for Cable & Wireless, 17p off at 473p, and Incheape, 38p lower at 24412p.

Only five companies among the top 100 ended the day on a positive note. They included Rolls-Royce, 2p firmer at 22712p, RMC Group, 3p to 910p. Severn Trent, 2p to



Rolls-Royce shares, 2p firmer, were among the few risers

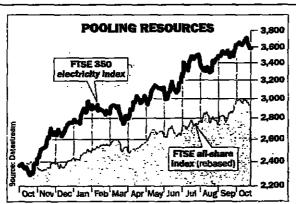
513p. and Thames Water, Ip

Worst-hit among the top 100 were Abbey National, down 391 ap at 929p after refusing to rule out acquisitions, General Accident, 30p to £10.56, Lloyds TSB, 29p to 740p, Pearson, 49p to 775p, and Zeneca, 72p to £19.48. Schroders also ended the session 100p lower at £18.25. At one point, brokers reported

a 98p spread between "bid"

Speculation that the hunter may be about to become the hunted lifted Hanson 3p to 312p. Word is it could soon find itself on the receiving end of a bid from Minorco, down £1316 at £121332.

The market continued to reflect upon this week's favourable trading statement from Cookson Group, though



SHARES in the main power generators blew a fuse after the Government confirmed that it would be launching its long-awaited review of electricity pool prices. Double-figure losses on top of the falls seen elsewhere in the market.

National Power was the worst-hit, falling 48½ p. or 9 per cent, to 48Sp, while PowerGen shed 53p at 678p, Scottish Power 2012p to 432p. Scottish Hydro 5p to 447p and National Grid

Adam Forsyth, at Nat-West Markets, the broker,

is unperturbed by the news. "Some people will see it as bad news. We see it as a buying opportunity. The whole question of pool prices has been dragging on. This will be the chance resolved once and for all.

he said. It was the pool itself which called for the original inquiry following complaints that some prices were out of line.

The broader demand will remain unaffected. This inquiry will look at the mechanisms behind it all," Mr Forsyth said.

260p. The new management took a party of 50 brokers and fund managers on a trip to the group's new microchip plant

The strong pound took its toll of the engineering com-panies, which have lost much of their competitive edge, especially in Europe. Siebe dropped 45p to E12.30, Glynwed International 10p to 25312p, FKI 712p to 198p, Morgan Crucible 8p to 51612p, Powerscreen 22p to 726¹2p, Weir 1lp to 285¹2p, Laird 1lp to 471¹2p, and GKN 17p to £13.70.

Some cautious comments from Schroders left British Energy nusing a fall of 3612p.

to 370p.

Flextech stood out in a falling market, with a jump of 20p to 571p, making it the bestperforming stock among the top 250 companies. Speculation is mounting that Dow Jones is about to merge its business television arm, EBN, with NBC of America. Flextech has a 30 per cent stake in EBN.

It was not the best of days for a company to make its stock market debut, but Ultraframe managed to achieve a useful premium all the same. Placed at 147p by Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the price opened at 15712p before closing at its best of the day

☐ GILT-EDGED: Gains of up to £1 were recorded in early trading, with investors switching out of equities and into bonds as the turmoil in Asian markets boiled over. The best levels were not

held, with some fund managers taking the view that the bond market itself may be vulnerable to any bad news contained within the economy that could result in further rises in interest rates. In futures, the December

series of the long gilt touched £11914 before closing £1932 better at £1182132 as the total number of contracts completin the cash market, Trea-

sury 8 per cent 2015 put on £1516 at £1151316, while among shorter-dated issues Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £1s better NEW YORK: The Dow

Jones industrial average fell 170 points in initial trade, pulled back during the morning and returned near to session lows by midday, at 7,888.78, down 145.87 points.

MAJOR INDICES
New York (midday): Dow Jones
Tokyo: Nikket Average 17151.55 (-536.06)
Hong Kong: Hang Seng 10426-30 (-1211-47).
Amsterdam: EOE Index
Sydney: 2614.9 (-68.0)
Frankfurt DAX
Singapore: 1649.87 (-81.81)
Brussels: General 13308.79 (-321.66)
Paris: 2850.67 (-101.19)
Zurich: 1200.70 (-28.00)

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Closing Prices Page 33

Cable from former colony

HONG KONG's turmoil has had the useful effect of thrashing London's leading bank shares, which were riding for a fall on the domestic front. Bargain hunters should steer clear of the bloodied financial giants. Markets in such a jittery mood are best avoided, but the rout in Hong Kong opens up potentially interesting possibilities. One such share is Cable & Wireless, which yesterday lost another 3 per cent in value after Wednes drop of 5 per cent. At its peak in July, C&W. was priced at 616p, but worries about prospects in China have dogged the shares.

After the Hong Kong rout, C&W is at 473p.
Like the dog that didn't bark, the interest is in how little C&W shares suffered yesterday. well below the average fall among FTSE stocks of 5 per cent. That may seem curious, given C&W's heavy exposure to the former colony

from a huge stake in Hong Kong Telecom, but it is also logical. HK Telecom is C&W's prize asset and having recently sold part of its interest to Chinese controlled enterprises, C&W hopes to gain favours in telecoms developments in mainland China. Those hopes appeared to be damaged in the flotation of China Telecom in Hong Kong - C&W failed to take a big holding in the mainland Chinese vehicle — but China Telecom's assets were insufficiently attractive to C&W.

Even viewed as an investment trust, the stock is cheap. The value of its quoted stakes in HK Telecom, the CWC cable company and Telecom Jamaica already reach its current market value of some £10 billion. That leaves the various mobile phone interests. Mercury and Optus in for free. Bigger fish, such as BT and AT&T, must be watching.

Reuters

MILLENNIUM time bombs are causing embarrassment in the most bi-tech of companies. Meanwhile: the arrival of EMU in January 1999 is worrying a host of other businesses. But few companies are cursed with both problems to the same extent as Reuters.

Of course, Reuters is right to portray the necessary changes as an opportunity to upgrade equipment but many will be watching carefully to see the full cost of the exercise. Hopes that Reuters will be able to pass on the full cost by foisting a glossy new product on its customers, seem far-fetched. However, the market was not too agitated yesterday and al-though Reuters shares fell 34p, to 702p, the drop was largely in line with momen-

ICI

ICI has achieved the first

been walloped by the strong profits total. any conclusions about the emerging "New ICI", as the company has dubbed its

nesses to be sold to DuPont.

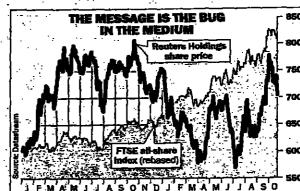
in the last couple of months, the initial euphoria that greeted ICI when the scale of its re-invention became apparent, has dissipatperiod of uncertainty at the rather staid information group for the next couple of vears. The more enthusiastic proponents of the Internet. who see information publishers such as Reuters being undermined by limitless free information are wide of the mark. Reuters has launched

The Reuters "double

whammy does point up a

its own Internet products to entend its range in the direction of private investors. Underlying growth, minus the strong pound, is still running at around 8 per cent. But what with millennium

time bombs, EMU and the Internet, it would be a brave investor who saw Reuters as much more than a hold until January 2, 2000.



improvement in its quarterly profits for nearly two years. up £1 million to £132 million. It's a start. The underlying picture is much more promis

ing but the company has pound, which will cut £180 million from the full-year It is far too soon to draw

strategic move from commodity into specialty chemicals. The purchase of the E5 billion renders comparison meaningless. At the same time. ICI has still to offload a slew of industrial chemicals operations, including polyester polymers and other busi-

looks correct. When the current stock market shake-out comes to an end, the shares could be worth buying once again.

Mersey Docks TWO years after the Torside

picketers planted themselves outside the Liverpool dock gates, the campaign waged by the sacked Mersey dockers continues. The original dispute - Mersey Docks & Harbour Company sacked 300 workers for refusing to cross a picket line manned by lost in an emotional camsupport from dockworkers to the dockers has been endorsement from showbiz, in-cluding Jo Brand, and politics. Colonel Gaddafi recently awarded a prize to the wives of the sacked

dockworkers.

ed. However, the broad thrust of its strategy still ifestly failed to achieve the desired effect - Mersey Docks has suffered no obvious loss of business, barring the initial departure of ACL, the shipping line that has since returned to Liverpool Two new container lines have joined the port, and container volumes were up 7 per cent in the half year. Indeed, the only financial blow to the company was caused by its management in their misguided decision to support the troubled Eurolink ferry.

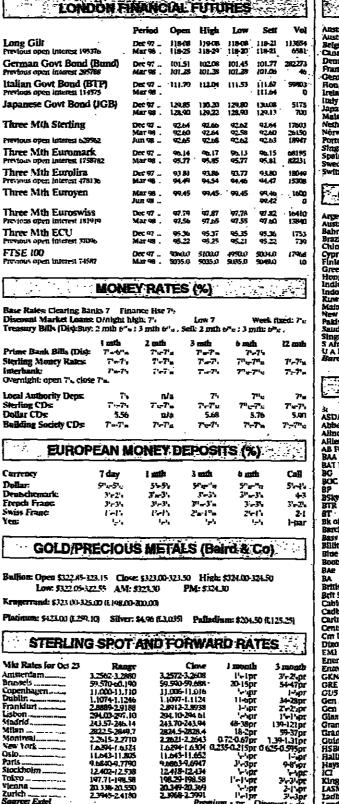
Yet the campaign has man-

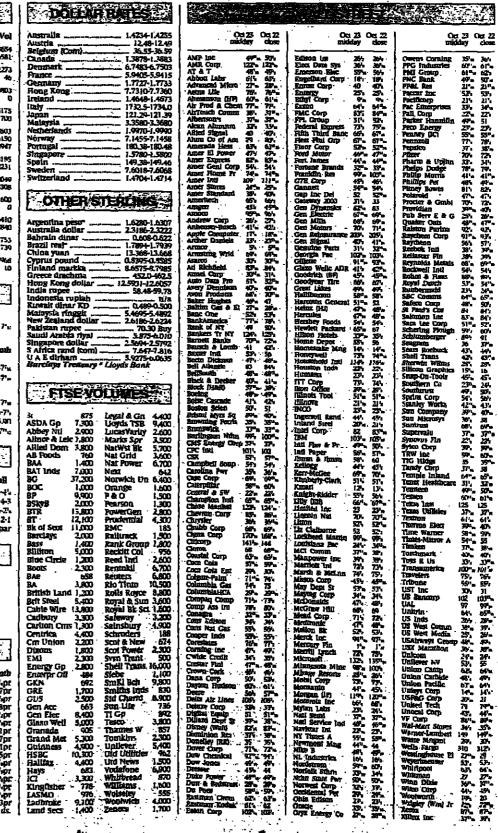
After yesterday's ballot, which rejected the £28,000per-head settlement offer, the T&GWU and the Governdemonstrated little skill in presenting their case but the shares are now looking very cheap at less than 13 times current year earnings and could be worth a flutter.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

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THE TIMES FRIDAY OCTOBER 24 1997



هكذامن رلامل

Brown should ignore the EMU prophets of doom

If Britain opts out of monetary union until 2002, it is not going to hurt UK manufacturers or financial markets

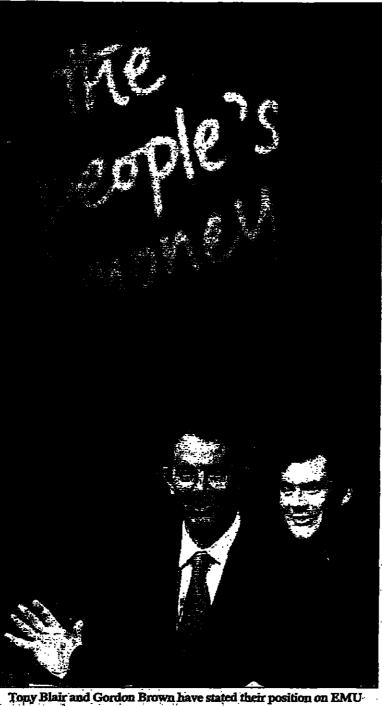
ormer colonics

s Gordon Brown puts the finishing touches to the historic announcement ruling out British membership of the European monetary union during the present Parliament, he must withstand one final rearguard campaign to force him to change his mind. A motley collection of trade unionists, business lobbyists. EU officials and Downing Street Euro-enthusiasts, perhaps led by Peter Mandelson himself, is bombard ing the Chancellor with all kinds of warnings about the damage that Britain would suffer by staying out of EMU until 2002. This scaremongering is unlikely to shift the policy agreed by Mr Brown and the Prime Minister last week - to stay out of EMU for the rest of this Parliament while laying the groundwork for possible entry after 2002. This misinformation may however, arouse anxieties among many voters and businessmen. I will therefore try to refute below the three prophecies of doom heard most often. But first let me focus on the rather narrow issue that is now at stake.

The question that Mr Brown has to answer next week - and the one that has provoked the barrage of propaganda against him - is not whether Britain should turn its back on EMU forever. It is whether Britain will lose anything by opting out of the single currency for the first three years and then taking a considered decision on EMU after an election in 2001 or 2002. The macroeconomic issues about interest rates and exchange rates have often been discussed in this column. (Anthony Harris will give some of his insights on arguments about EMU and the economic cycle in next week's Economic View.) For the present I want to concentrate on the industrial and institutional claims often made about delaying the decision on EMU.

☐ British industry may suffer disforeign investors could be deterred The obvious and, in my view, conclusive

rebuttal, is that exporters from Germany and France would lose far more than those based in Britain from any fragmentation of the European single market (since Britain buys from more goods from the Continent than it exports). This argument was discussed in detail on this page on January 31. In the present debate, which relates only to the timing of possible EMU entry, the scares about protectionism are even easier to dispel. Other European governments would not dream of breaking up the single market to punish Britain (along with Sweden and Denmark) simply for waiting until 2002. Such impatience would cost German and French multinationals dearly, since they are big inward investors in Britain. Punitive measures would also make sceptical British and Nordic voters even more suspicious of joining EMU after 2002. In any case, neither European leaders nor international business would be in the least surprised if the Government ruled out EMU member-



ship before 2002. This was exactly the n - until a phantom change of policy was "discovered" by the Financial Times. It is hard to see why either investors or politicians should suddenly alter their long-term strategies because a rumour that was never true, nor even plausible, is finally denied.

A further argument, based on the present economic conjuncture, must also be borne in mind. At a time when the pound is too high for comfort and monetary policy is being tightened to restrain economic growth, it is not clear that Britain needs more foreign investment. Creating conditions for efficient investment is always desirable, but over the next few years, with the economy threatened more by overheating than by unemployment, there is no reason for British policy to be distorted to pander to the irrational fears of a tiny minority of investors from America or Japan.

☐ By being out at the start. Britain will lose influence over initial decisions about how the single currency

Yes, but this hardly matters. All the important decisions about the single

currency rules have already been taken.

The convergence criteria, the restricpolicy that almost everyone expected of tions on national tax policies under the Labour both before and after the Stability Pact, and above all, the anti-Central Bank have all been irrevocably settled. The only debates to come are about personnel appointments and

By missing out on the 1999 start, Britain will lose the chance to lobby for a Briton to get one of the three remaining places on the ECB's executive board. (The presidency, vice-presidency and one of the four executive positions have already been stitched up by Germany, The Netherlands and France.) But so what? All appointees to the ECB will, in any case, be forbidden by law from heeding the views of their national governments or even representing the interests of their home countries. And if Britain does eventually join EMU, the Governor of the Bank of England will anyway have a vote on the ECB board (although he, too, will be expressly forbidden from representing Britain's national interest).

Regarding the conduct of monetary policy, there are three technical issues ll to be resolved. Should banks in EMU be forced to hold reserves on the German model? Should the ECB aim for an inflation target (like the Bank of

work.

England) or a money-supply target (like the Bundesbank)? And how should banks based outside EMU be treated in the euro settlement system and the market operations of the ECB? These are questions of limited significance to the general public. In any case, they are already near to resolution. The Bundesbank is absolutely insistent that banks will be forced to hold involutary reserves and a lone vote for liberalism from Britain would not have the slightest impact on this determination. The ECB will operate an "eclectic" approach, involving both monetary and inflation targets. The vexed question of 'access" will probably be settled by international banks creating subsidiaries domiciled in Luxembourg or Dublin but managed from Tokyo, Zurich, New York — or London.

But surely the City will lose out in

financial centres. This is perhaps the strangest argument of all, especially when it comes from trade unionists who have never before suggested that guaranteeing the pros-perity of millionaire mechant bankers should become a national political goal. It is true that financial services are potentially more vulnerable to discriminatory treatment than manufacturers. They are easier to control through nontariff barriers. And other European economies are less dependent on finance than Britain, implying that restrictions would be less of a self-inflicted wound than they would be in the case of manufacturing trade. Nevertheless, there is very little danger that the City would suffer from delaying a British decision until 2002. International banks, like other rationally managed international companies, have long based their business strategies on the assumption that Britain would remain outside EMU until 2002. Why then have they been buying businesses and hiring financiers voraciously in London? And why have German banks been among the biggest investors in London? Because they are convinced that the City will become even more dominant as the financial centre of the European timezone after monetary union. EMU will squeeze such purely national financial centres as Milan, Madrid and Paris. Financial activity will be concentrated in the place with the most favourable operating conditions and the largest pool of skills. That place will be London, not Frankfurt, and this will be true (at least in the next few years) whether Britain is or out of the first EMU wave. The flood of foreign capital into London has in fact been so intense that almost no British-owned banks are left in the City for Brussels to discriminate against. In the unlikely event that EMU countries did try to act against the City, their main

in America, Germany, Japan, The Netherlands, Switzerland and France. Money moves so readily across national boundaries that financial centres often thrive best outside the currency zones they serve. Zurich has always been a more important financial centre than Frankfurt and nobody seems to doubt that companies such as Union Bank of Switzerland or Zurich Insurance will prosper after EMU, even though they are based outside the EU. never mind the single currency zone. In Hong Kong, by contrast, we now see a fascinating and predictable example of a financial centre collapsing on absorption into the national economy (China) that it used to serve from the outside. Tony Blair has suggested that he wants to make Britain the Hong Kong to

victims would now be companies based

Six whole years without all that useless paper piling up on your machine

Stamp duty

FUNNY, the hobbies and pas-times quietly enjoyed by some surprising people. And rather reassuring that we are not all driven workaholics with no time for anything else in our lives, the ones who are the real sad Nigels if you ask me. (Remind me one day to tell you about the highly successful accountant who is building a scale model of Llandudno railway station in his spare bedroom.) Anyway, the chief cashier of the Bank of England and the man with the most famous signature in the country is a keen

Graham Kentfield, who is also a deputy director at the Bank, today opens COLLECT 97 at Olympia, the fair for people who collect things. ponsored by Stanley Gibbons. believe that collecting is a basic human instinct. It is a) interesting and b) entirely harmless," he will reassure the collected collectors.

 PLENTY of takers for a series of special initiatives from the South African Government designed to lure investors to the country's Industrial Development Zones. According to an advertisment in the Financial Times they include "a sixyear fax holiday". Think of it.

FOR sheer brass neck, I think this one beats them all. Robert Feld, the former Resort Hotels boss currently serving eight years for fraud, has just been moved from Wandsworth Prison to more salubrious premises near Woking. Ever keen to keep in touch with his professional contacts in the outside world, Feld has just sent out the following Prontaprint-style change of address card: "Robert Feld's postal address with effect from 14 October 1997 has changed to Her Majesty's Pris-



UK companies left reeling by financial fall-out in Far East

has swept across most of South East Asia reached the shores of Hong Kong this week — and left many British companies recling in its wake.

Some of the biggest names in British industry and fi-nance — HSBC Holdings. Cable & Wireless, Schroders - have seen their share price tumble in the past week because of heavy exposure to Hong Kong investments.
With a dual listing in both

London and the former colony, HSBC, owner of Midland Bank, has arguably suffered the most. Its shares dropped by as much as £2 yesterday, before bouncing back to close 150p off at 1,610p. The crisis, which has seen the Hang Seng Index shed almost a third of its value since Monday, has toppled HSBC from its perch as the biggest UK company by market capitalisation. That crown goes to BP.

HSBC derived 80 per cent of its 1996 pre-tax profits from its Hong Kong business based on lending to commerce and on residential properties. As of last year, 87 per cent of its assets were in the territory. Because of the intimate relationship between property and the stock market - 60 per cent of listing companies have earn-ings linked to property — HSBC is in a catch 22

situation, say analysts. The fear is that if interest rates in the former colony remain high or rise further, i will plunge Hong Kong into recession and put a large dent in HSBC's future profits. Conversely, if the Hong Kong authorities drop the peg with the US dollar - and they are refusing at the moment — that will have just as damaging impact on the company's business. Two thirds of its shares are listed in the former colony.

"HSBC is stuffed both ways," said one banking analyst. He forecast that the group could face as much as a 20 per cent drop in pre-tax profits if the Hong Kong crisis turns into a recession, or the peg with the dollar goes. Those brokers who have been advising their clients to buy HSBC in the past few weeks have landed them with heavy losses. And this is not the end." Martin Green, a banking

analyst with Merrill Lynch. the US investment bank, puts the possible damage of a currency devaluation much lower, perhaps at 12 per cent if one assumes the H K dollar is devalued 30 per cent. But he concedes that the figure could be anything in current conditions, as the shock waves rippled out into Europe and Wall Street.

HSBC, like the other socalled colonial bank Standard Chartered, was putting a brave face on its plight last night. The bank pointed out that the 860 million 75p shares it issued on its takeover of Midland in 1991 are, even after this week's events, still worth more than £16, though this is far short of its peak of £23.47 in late August.

Richard Miles and Jon

Ashworth on Hong Kong's response to

the crisis

Standard Chartered's shares held up a little better, coming off 26.5p to close at 689.5p yesterday. Tim Hal-ford, a director, pointed out that the 35 per cent of pre-tax profits that come from the region stem mainly from mortgage lending, where it has a 10 per cent market share. Because buyers can only borrow up to 70 per cent of a property's value, the housing market has to fall by about 40 per cent before defaults occur in great numbers. "We have almost never had a default," he said.

This week's losses have also to be offset against rising property values since the beginning of the year. Geoff Palmer, an analyst with Credit Suisse First Bos-

The perception among locals is that, by Christmas, it will be a thing

ton in Hong Kong, reckons office space has increased in value 30 per cent and residential property 15 per cent. Most of those gains will now be wiped out, leaving people no worse off than at the

Other banks caught up in

year's start.

of the past

the storm are Schroders, which last year derived 15 per cent of its earnings from the Far East, and Robert Fleming through Jardine Fleming, its 50/50 joint venture with Jardine Matheson. Schroders' shares dropped group Cable & Wireless was also singled out as possible casualty because it derives 60 per cent of profits from its majority stake in Hong Kong Telecom.

The slump poses an imme-diate threat to UK property developers. Companies like Regalian Properties have opened representative offices in Hong Kong and Singapore to cope with the tide of interest from locals seeking to invest in UK property. London's County Hall development, along with the new Canary Wharf residential project backed by Ong Beng Seng of Singapore, are thought to be exhibiting in

Hong Kong this weekend. David Goldstone, chairman and chief executive of Regalian, said the slump in Hong Kong was unlikely to threaten Regalian projects in the UK. "No doubt, there is a concern about what has happened, but the perception among locals is that, by Christmas, it will all be a thing of the past," he said.
"We have to be careful of a

knee-jerk reaction." Those with significant local exposure include Hongkong Land, a subsid-iary of Jardine Matheson, with 5 million sq ft of prime office and retail space in the main business district.

Brokers in Hong Kong were in shock yesterday. One said: "For Hong Kong to collapse within four months of the handover represents tremendous loss of face for the Chinese. The fear is that if property gets hit, you get bad loans, the banks get hit, and you'll end up with a Tokyo situation."

UK investment funds have some exposure to Hong Kong. Of the £154 billion under management in the UK unit trust industry, about 5 per cent — or £7.7 billion is targeted at the Far East, excluding Japan, with about £2.75 billion in Hong Kong. Investors were urged not

to panic. Anne McMeehan of the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds (AUTIF), the unit trust trade body, said: "It shouldn't have too dramatic an effect on UK unit trust investors, since the exposure appears to be less than 2 per

According to pooled figures, about L6 per cent of pension fund investments are likely to be focused on was based on a Hang Seng of near 15,000, and the market falls will have reduced the weighting to nearer I per cent. Total exposure could run to £60 billion.



After Britain's handover, financial fireworks

Numbers up

KEEP an eye on comings and goings at Carnelot. The lottery operator has won its High Court case for the return of documents that blew the gaff on those 40 per cent bonus. payments leaked to Marketing Week in May. These caused an awful stink and pressure on the Government to take the job off the fat cats. Camelor's affidavit makes interesting reading. Peter Murphy, finance director, claims: "It isclear from the material to which the unidentified source had access that he or she must have operated at a high level within the organisation or has access to those who are working at that high level." In other



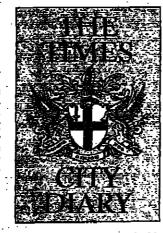
And moving in from the east, a large depression eyer the City

words, a director, or a minion with a grudge.
The affidavit also reveals

that Neil Dickens, the hawkeyed director of security, carried out a wide-ranging inquiry that showed the internal documents that were leaked came from within the company. Well I never. The documents were marked. making it easy to identify from whose desk they leaked. So if a senior Camelot executive finds compelling reason to make an abrupt career move shortly, we will know why.

● I HAVE this on good authority, but I am still not sure I believe it. Two months ago The Times carried an horrific picture from Tehran of the execu-tion of a serial killer, hanged by a mobile crane in front of 20,000 onlookers. The agency that took the photo has been contacted by the (British) maker of the crane, which had better remain nameless. Brilliant picture - could they have a copy for their office wall? Per-haps they could put it in their sales brochure too - 100 things you never knew you could do with our products?

Civil remedy THE clearest indication yet



about cracking down on insider trading, from Alistair Darling, Chief Secretary to the Treasury. Speaking to the International Equity Dealers Association yesterday, he described the current law. based on criminal action that hardly ever gets a result because of the impossible burden of proof needed, as "worse than useless".

He promised "explicit powers" for the new City super-regulator Whose Name Dare Not Be Spoken to ensure that the City was properly run. He also promised that these powers will be included in the new Financial Services Bill a couple of

My informant at the meeting someone so blameless in his professional conduct that he can have no possible axe to grind, said most present took this to mean a switch to the sort that the Government is serious of civil remedies in use on Wall

Street. They have one distinct tem. They are more likely to

Europe. Let us hope that he means pre-

1997 Hong Kong.

Soft cell

Martin Waller



Robert Feld's cup of woe has been sweetened with a change of address

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Coal poised to spark showdown between new and old Labour Ht first showdown between new and sold Labour Ht first showdown between new and sold Labour Ht first showdown between new and old Labour When the vertaint continuers and a batteground is fritains the could industry. The political temperature over all is friting between critical continuency of the fathour cover the Labour Government to protect miners, says Christine Buckley When the fathour Government and its traditional gary rose. From continuency Mft and the coal industry. The first pid ceasure under Labour Covernment to protect miners, says Christine Buckley When the fathour Government are strict the use of coals as fact, which increasingly is being a few days it will spill into the coal in mounting. Environmental commitments there are never the labour Government to protect miners, says Christine Buckley In the coal industry. The Rev John John Grogan, MP For an an energy policy. The alliance came septime yesterior are in Sellow coals are so in Sellow coals are in S

Minister, and Michael Meacher, Environment Minister.

alliance. They want to move coal up the political agenda and want clear

demned for distancing itself from

ment. I doubt if they will again."

Blair for an urgent review of energy. "We've got reviews of

land of old Labour goes straight to. the core of the divide between the

is delivering is another matter.

Battle sets up review of electricity pool system

THE Government yesterday launched a review of the controversial electricity pool.

Shares in PowerGen fell 54p to 677p, National Power fell 492p to 487p and British Energy lell 31½p to 375p. Analysts, however, said the reaction may be a little overdone and that a radical shakeup of the generating industry was unlikely as a result.

Big industrial customers have blamed the pool for causing huge spikes in electricity prices at times of peak use, which has forced some large companies to build their

own generating plant.

John Battle, Minister for Science, Energy and Industry, said he has initiated a full review of the way wholesale England and Wales, including

how the electricity pool works. He said that he was responding to "criticisms that the pool sets prices that are too high" and that its operations "are not sufficiently open to be visibly above board. Mr Battle added: "We need to see whether the present system. prices, can be improved to are too high; that it is a benefit the electricity industry suppliers' club. . . "

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businesses and at home. Stephen Littlechild, Director-General of Offer, the industry regulator, is to draw up terms of reference. Mr Battle said he expects a review to begin next year so it will not interfere with introducing competition between suppliers delivering electricity to homes.

Mr Battle went on: "The time has come to look again at the way electricity is traded since the pool is not now the only model in the world. We can learn from the experience of other countries, such as Norway's nordpool,"

He added: "When the pool was conceived in 1990, it was set up almost in a vacuum. There were no other models to draw on, no experience of a deregulated electricity market in the UK, and the centralised system of the old Central Electricity Generating Board

was in full swing. The design had performed well in many respects with prices coming down and 23 new independent power producers entering the market, he said. "And yet there is still criticism of the pool. Consumers complain tha



Gerry Francis, left, Spurs' manager, with Les Ferdinand, signed for £6 million

Spurs eyes foreign clubs

confirmed yesterday that it had held acquisition talks with foreign clubs as part of its strategy to gain Europeanwide sponsorship, television and merchandising revenue. Alan Sugar, the club's chairman, refused to name individual clubs, and said that a deal before Christmas was unlikely. He added that he was still interested in

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR, where vast potential audithe Premiership football club, ences are available. "If we did own four or five clubs," Mr Sugar said, "we could go en masse to a sponsor or a replica sportswear manufacturer and establish a central European mail order busi-

ness to help distribution." The plan was revealed as Tottenham reported an 80 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, from £4.2 million to £7.6

£26 million. Earnings per share rose fivefold from 1.7p to 7.3p. A final dividend of 0.67p is due November 28. making a total of lp (0.86p).

The strong results were in line with analysts' forecasts and came in spite of a relatively poor performance by the club on the field. Tottenham, which is managed by Gerry Francis, revealed that it had spent £19 million on players

Japanese **brokers** FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN TORYO AFTER being hit by a widen-

Racketeer

effect hits

ing racketeer payoff scandal, big Japanese brokerages yesterday reported a heavy fall in earnings for the first half of

this year. Nikko and Daiwa both suffered a sharp downturn in profits, while Yamaichi slumped into the red. Of Tokyo's big four brokers, only Nomura, the largest, managed to improve on the first half of last year, returning to profit from a loss.

Brokerages said the racketeering scandal that has in-volved Japan's big brokerages affected first-half earnings. Nikko said the impact would

linger into the second half. Nikko's profits fell to just Y283 million (£1.44 million), down 98.7 per cent from Y21.87 billion. Daiwa's profits fell 29 per cent, to Y15.53 billion, from Y21.80 billion. Yamaichi's losses were Y2.72 billion, including charges against restructuring European operations, compared with profits of

Y2.07 billion. Nomura's net profits of Y49.71 billion compared with a loss of Y332.01 billion last time, when the brokerage provided huge financial assisance to a troubled affiliate.

Officials of Nomura, Yamaichi, Nikko and and Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank, a commercial bank, have been arrested for allegedly paying off a corporate extort money from companies by threatening to disrupt

shareholders' meetings. Nomura said it has lost business with major clients since the scandal surfaced earlier this year. During summer, the Finance Ministry announced penalties for Nomura for its involvement in the scandal. The punishments included a ban on underwriting and participating in auctions of new government bonds between August 6 and December 31. As a result, Nomura said, it posted losses in August, although it returned

to the black in September. Company officials said weakness in Japanese shares had cut commissions on sales of Japanese equities overseas,

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Virgin Express offer price could top £24

VIRGIN EXPRESS Holdings yesterday confirmed plans to make an initial public offering of 2.14 million ordinary shares in the form of international depositary shares or American depositary shares to American and international investors. Merrill Lynch International, which is acting as global coordinator for the offering, said the offer price is expected to be between \$39 (£24) and \$45 a share.

Virgin has applied for listings on the Nasdaq national market and on the Brussels stock exchange. The offer is expected to start on November 13. Virgin Express is wholly owned by Virgin Travel and operates short to medium-haul jet services from Brussels, mainly within continental Europe. Between April 1996 and last August flights increased from 338 a month to 1,628. For the six months to June 30, revenue increased by 222 per cent to 2.04 billion Belgian francs (£34.2 million). Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, amortisation and aircraft rental were up 59 per cent, to BFr941 million.

Action Computer ahead

ACTION COMPUTER, the mail order supplier of information technology products, lifted pre-tax profits by 58 per cent in the year to August 29 from £3.2 million to £5.1 million. Turnover was up 28 per cent from £134 million to £172 million, while earnings per share rose 15.5 per cent to 9.7p. A final dividend of 1.5p makes a total 2.5p. The company said that it expected growth in the UK mail order sector of the IT market to outpace that of the overall market.

Daks Simpson rises

DAKS SIMPSON, the UK clothing manufacturing and retail company that is owned by Sanyo Seiko. of Japan, made an interim pre-tax profit of £1.89 million. up from last year's £1.83million. Its turnover increased by 12.5 per cent, to £42.3 million. Earnings per share rose from 18.7p to 20.37p. Dividends paid on preference shares for the half year to July 31 amounted to £4.375, the same amount as

Anglogold advances

ANGLOGOLD, the gold division of South Africa's huge Anglo American mining company, lifted its net profits 11 per cent, to 236.3 million rand (about £30 million) in the three months to September 30. Operating profits were up by 17 per cent, to R490.5 million. The Freegold mine, the world's largest, reported a steady quarter, with ore production rising by 4 per cent, to 18.95 tons, while average working costs fell 3 per cent, to \$328 an ounce.

Lawson Beaumont sold

BREAK FOR THE BORDER has sold Lawson Beaumont, its specialist events, catering and Christmas party company, to Gardner Merchant services group for £2.5 million cash. An announcement on the rest of the group's disposal programme, involving the music-theatre division, is expected soon. The company also said Lawson Beaumont has made a payment to Break for the Border of around £300,000 in settlement of intra-group indebtedness.

Lyons ends franchise

LYONS TRISH Holdings said its Lyons Tea operation has decided not to renew its franchise arrangement with Dunkin' Donuts, a unit of Allied Domeco, and is to take a charge for the move, which "will not be significant". The lease to a number of outlets is being bought by Chamaine Keenan, general manager of Dunkin' Donuts Ireland since 1992. The new company will not be trading as Dunkin' Donuts. Lyons said the value of the net assets disposed of is £992,000.

Vodafone calls Logica

LOGICA, the independent consultancy, system integration and software company, has won a £5 million contract from Vodafone to supply an archive system — or "calls park" — to store information relating to calls made by Vodafone's three million network users. The system, expected by March 1998, will provide Vodafone with an automated network audit that can be used for reconciling billing queries, improving service and planning network expansion. Logica said.

LucasVarity share deal

LUCASVARITY, the Anglo-American engineering company, is negotiating the purchase of 66 per cent of the voting shares of Freios Varga. Brazil's largest brakes manufacturer, it was announced yesterday. The shares are held principally by Varga Participações. LucasVarity afready has a 34 per cent interest in the business, which boasted sales of about £164

last year, including Les Ferdimillion, on turnover of £28 million, up 9 per cent from nand and David Ginola. purchasing clubs in China. also hitting profits.

US funds must declare policy on 2000 computer bug

Time bomb tactics demanded

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

REACTING to fears that US stock markets face a meltdown in the year 2000. the Securities and Exchange Commission is forcing financial service companies and mutual funds to make official disclosures on how they will combat the millennium computer bug time bomb.

The approval of mergers such as the \$9 billion acquisition of Salomon Brothers by the Travelers Group could be delayed if companies do not account for the costs and risks arising from the reprogramming of computer equipment. All annual reports filed by financial service com-

panies will be reviewed by the SEC to check the millennium exposure.

Brian Lane, an SEC finance expert, told a US Senate hearing that Wall Street is particularly vulnerable to the computer. bug, which arises from the fact that most puters register only the last two digits of a year. The American investment community is highly dependent on elec-

tronic trading systems.

The SEC is insisting that companies state how they will tackle the issue, even if they believe that they will not be affected. Mr Lane said that banks and mutual funds should all go on the record to reassure investors.

Earlier this year Arthur Levitt, the SEC

chairman, said: "The Commission takes the year 2000 problem very seriously. We are engaged in a number of efforts to educate various participants in the securities markets regarding the need to respond successfully to the challenge and to monitor actively the progress of these

He said that the SEC was working with various exchanges, the National Associ-ation of Securities Dealers and clearing

The New Stock Exchange has told its members they should have all their systems ready by December 1998 with the following 12 months earmarked for testing and corrections.

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Philips boosted by recovery in semiconductors

PHILIPS ELECTRONICS, of semiconductor and compo-The Netherlands, has reported a sharp advance in its thirdquarter profits on the back of a recovery in semiconductor

In the three months to September 30, net profits from normal operations rose to 721 million guilders (about £218 million) from 123 million guilders in the third quarter of

These post-tax results were slightly higher than analysts' expectations of about 690 million guilders. Joost Van Beek, an analyst with the Dutch firm of Kempen & Co, said: Third-quarter growth exceeded our expectations. You have to take into account that the year-ago period was rather

Semiconductor sales started to accelerate in the second quarter and really took off in the third. Philips said. They pushed operating profits of the nents division up from 1.2 billion guilders in the first nine months of 1996, to L7 billion guilders in the equiva-lent period of 1997.

Total operating profits were 3.2 billion guilders for the first nine months of the year, compared with 1.5 billion guilders.

Philips. Europe's largest consumer electronics group, produces a range of products from television and stereo equipment to semiconductors. It is also the world's largest manufacturer of light bulbs. The company is continuing a

major restructuring, which has seen disposals and the removal of the loss-making Germanconsumer electronics company Grundig from its consolidated accounts. Exceptional items, including proceeds of the sale of shares in Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing, added another 711 million guilders of profit to the net figure of 721

million guilders in the third

Jan Hommen, finance director, said yesterday that the group is transforming itself into a more transparent and accountable company. It has a long-term goal of double-digit profit growth and a 24 per cent

net return on assets. Mr Hommen said: 'Our balance sheet debt at the end of the quarter is 33 per cent of our total capital structure. I would not mind to see the debt come down even more.

"One thing at the heart of this company is the ability to continue to make new products ... and for new products you need to continue research and continue to invest. That ability is critical if you want to have a future. You have a future if you have a strong balance sheet. Having a strong balance sheet is not a problem. I would say it's a must in this business.



Steve Thomas, left, and Michael Arnold plan to open five new Chicago Rock outlets in time for Christmas

Luminar extends nightclub chain

LUMINAR, the fast-growing restaurant and night club company, is on target to open a further five Chicago Rock cases ahead of the crucial Christmas trading period (Martin Barrow writes).

هكذامن الإمل

The company, under Michael Arnold, chairman, and Steve Thomas, chief executive, said yesterday that de-spite a bullish property mar-ket it has identified new sites and an additional 16 outlets would be opened by the end of February 1999. So far this year Chicago Rock outlets have opened in Worcester, Chelmston. Expansion will be funded

a £17 million facility from the Bank of Scotland. The pro-ceeds of a £15.6 million rights issue in May will be fully absorbed by the current year's development programme.

The company, whose con-trolling shareholder is Mercury Asset Management,

pre-tax profits to £1.69 million for the half year to August 24 on turnover that increased 23 per cent to £14.7 million.

Earnings of 6.8p a share. compared with a restated 7.2p last time. The interim dividend is unchanged at 2.33p a

Hutchison and P&G in new deal

BY A CORRESPONDENT

HUTCHISON WHAMPOA the Far East trading group, has agreed to restructure its China joint venture with Procter & Gamble, with the aim of selling its entire stake to the US company within 20

Under the agreement, P&G is able to increase its ownership in the joint venture from 69 per cent to 80 per cent by early 1998 through the exercise of initial options and immediately assume total management control. P&G will pay \$650 million (£396 million) for the initial options, with Hutchison taking exceptional profits of \$186 million in 1997 and \$434 million in 1998.

P&G's stake can be in creased to 100 per cent by 2017 through the exercise of options over the next 20 years, the company said. The payment for these options will be based on an agreed formula using the current market value of the business at that time.

"Hutchison Whampoa will receive a consideration which fully reflects the value of the interest to be disposed of in businesses in mainland China," said Canning Fok, man-

Newsagents at risk, says Verdict

By Sarah Cunningham

UP TO 10,000 newsagents risk going out of business because of the growing importance of supermarkets in their key areas of newspapers and magazines, tobacco and sweets. Verdict, the retail consultan-

cy, says that the sector is in crisis, with 1,100 newsagents going under last year in the wake of the 1994 Monopolies and Mergers Commission ruling allowing wider distribution of newspapers. More than 10,000 additional shops now sell papers, putting traditional newsagents under intense pressure. More consolidation is forecast for the sector, with small regional groups falling prey to the national multiples.

The sector was worth £9.6 billion last year, only 1.6 per cent more than the previous year, Verdict says, which meant that, in real terms, it declined by 3.9 per cent. Supermarkets now account

for 17 per cent of news and of tobacco spending and 48 per cent of confectionery spending. Vendict suggests that news-

agent chains will have to emconvenience store retailing if they are to prosper.
It believes that WH Smith, Britain's biggest newsagent, is mistaken in its plan to demerge its Waterstone's bookshops and sell its Virgin/Our Price record shops, noting the loss of group buying power.

Stakis acts to improve bank debt

BY DOMINIC WALSH

STAKIS, the hotel and casino operator, has refinanced a third of its bank debt in a bid to strengthen its balance sheet and put it in a stronger position to pursue acquisition opportunities. -

The company, which a year ago bought Metropole Hotels for £327 million, announced yesterday that it had completed an £82.5 million long term, fixed-rate financing agree-ment through two private placements — the first time that it has entered the private placement market.

The funds were raised in two lots: a \$100 million tenyear placement with five US institutional investors and a E20 million, 13-year placement with a UK investor. The dollar tranche was immediately swapped into sterling leaving Stakis with no exposure to sterling/dollar ex-

The proceeds, carrying a be used to repay banks' debts, which stand at £291 million.

David Black, group treasurer, said the company already had sufficient headroom for expansion from existing bank facilities", but he admitted that the refinancing would free up some appetite from the banks" if it wanted to make an acquisition. He added that acquisitions were un-

likely in the short-term. THE TIMES/DILLONS FORUM

A satirical walk with **BILL BRYSON**

READERS are invited to a... forum with the bestselling author Bill Bryson, when he will read extracts from his gripping new book, A Walk in the Woods, giving accounts of his experiences along the longest footpath in the world, the Appalachian Trail

The trail promised Bryson endless days of walking, nights of eating strange foods and, most importantly, the chance to



The forum on Tuesday. November 4, will be held at the Institute of Education. 20 Bedford Way. London WCl, at 7.30pm. Tickets at £10 (concessions £7.50) include £2 off the price of A

turn his inquiring, satirical

Walk in the Woods (Doubleday, £16.99). There will also be an opportunity for the audience to ask questions.

THE BILL BRYSON FORUM

for The Times/Dillons Bill Bryson at the Institute of Education.	Forum on Tuesday, November 4, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1
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The Times/Dillons Bill Bryson Forum Dillons, 82 Gower Street, London WCIE 6EQ



IS IT POSSIBLE FOR A BOAT TO SAIL ROUND BRITAIN AND IRELAND IN LESS THAN 6 DAYS? THAT'S THE CHALLENGE.

RACY EDWARDS and her crew are in a race against time. On Monday, having already smashed the cross Channel record, they launched their bid to beat the Round Britain and Ireland record of 5 days 21 hours in the racing catamaran, Royal & SunAlliance. If they succeed, Tracy and her ten female crew

members will no doubt show characteristic modesty. But the truth is, record or no record, they will have sailed 1,787 nautical miles through some

of the toughest stretches of water in the world. To do that takes outstanding personal

qualities. The ability to assess risk in a split second and handle it coolly. To foster absolute trust

in your partners and pull together as a team. Such qualities are not commonplace, We should know. We ask for

malism from our team at Royal & SunAlliance. And we get it. That's why we're behind this challenge. And that's why we're on her side,

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LONDON

WIT AND WISDOM: Two new productions play box and cor at the rung's Head this weekend. Takes My Lorer Tola Me is a new musical cornecty Lover Told Me is a new mascar correctly men and directed by Chris Burgess with music by Sarah Travis about three women in their carly middle yours struggling to stay trends while the legendary Sunday Times dirana critic legardary Sunday Times drama cano-James Agale is brought to life in Agate a new one-man show whiten by Barry Taner Rewland Davies portrays the moses box wear who ded 50 years 390 Two performances only King's Head Upper Street, N1 (0171. 216 1916; Tales: opens tonight, 7 30pm. Then Tue-Sat. 8pm; met Sun, 30m. Agare: Sun and Mon, 8pm. (5)

DANCE UMBRELLA: The international testival of contemporary dence continues with visits this weekend by two acclemed companies. Tonight the Spanish Landruma Imperial dances the British premiere of Juan Carlos Garda's Entisin premiere or utain customs carrows a Moving Landscapes, while on Sunday the Mail: Baldwin Dance Contibany performs a programme which includes Tureauth a new commission based on James MacMillan's requirem for the lost Ings of the Piper Alpha tragndy
Queen Elizabeth Helli South Bank,
SE1 (0171-960 4242) Perts, 7 45pm (§)

WEEKEND CLASSICS: Andrew Litton conducts the BBC Symphony orchestro in a concert longfit leaturing works by Gershvin and Strainisky Tomonow the Philiparmonta Crichestra under Philitaminita Crichestra under Christoph von Obhnany plays works by Mendebsohn and Beethoven. concluding with Strauss's symphonic poem Also sprach Zarathustra.
Feathwal Hall South Bank, SE1 (0171-96) 4242; Both concens at 7 30pm [6] ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM in Anthony Clark's production of Julius Caesar, set in 1930s Britain with a cast of 36, Michael

THE CHIPS WITH EVERYTHING FIRST

big Landon revival for Amold Wesker's 1962 play about class discontent and

untimining obedience in the armed lorges With Julian Glover and Rupert Panry-Jones Directed by Howard Daves Matterial (Lythetien), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252) Tonighi, 7,30pm, tomorrow, 2 15pm and 7 30pm. In rep

■ ELECTRA. Zoe Warramaker is a

powerful and poligram recover in Days Leveaux's production from Chichester Marjorie Yates plays Chyternestra Dommer Warehouse, Eartham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) Mon-Sat, Spm: mats Tue and Sat, 4pm (§)

☐ FAFTH New Meredith Oakes play.

ser somewhere in the source; Hemisphere where soldiers display a range of responses as they light for regain an island. John Burgess directs. Royal Count Upstatur (Ambassadors) West St. WC2 (0171-865 5000), Mon-Sat, 7 45pm.

☐ HURLYBURLY West End transfer for the first hit ham Peter Half 9 Old Vic. company David Rabe's savagety hunny play about Californian man behaving very badly indeed Wilson Mitam directs an excelled free!

an excallent cast Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5105) Mon-Sat. 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm Sat. 4pm.

☐ KAT AND THE KINGS Exuberant

bursis over Staten Ainca. A great evening out Tricycle Theatre, Kibum High Road, NW6 (0171-338 1000) Mon-Sar. 8pm. mats Wed 1007 22, Nov 5), 2pm and Sat. 4pm. Unit Nov 8 (5)

bursts over South Africa. A great

somewhere in the Souther

WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts compiled by Marit Hargle

Cashman, James Dreyfus and Timothy Vialker play Coesar. Cashus and Brutus Repertory Theatre, Broad Street 10121-236 4455). Previews from tonight, 7 30pm Opens Tue 7pm. Then Mon 2 30pm Sal (Nov 1), 3pm (A)

CHESTER World premiere of Vertige, with Marcus D Amico as the ex-coo tailing Arma Farnsworth in a dramatysation of the novel that inspired Hilchcock's him. Set in Paris at the start of the Second World War.



Soprano Susan Bullock sings in Manchester

Getsway, Hamiton Place (01244 340392) Previews from tonight, 8pm Opens Tue. 7 45pm. Then Mon-Thur. 7,45pm; Fri and Sat, 8pm; mats Wes (Nov 5), 2,30pm and Sat (Nov 15), 3pm, Until November 15.

CANTERBURY. The closing event of this year's Festival is a performance by the Orchestro National de Lille of Mahler's magnificent Symphony of a Thousand. A second performance is scheduled for London's Albert Hall on Monday Richard Cooke conducts. Centerbury Cathedral (Neve), (01227 452853) Tomorow, 7 30pm

MANCHESTER: The city's preme

chamber orchestra, the Manchester Carterata, calabrates to 25th anniversary tomorrow with a programme of Bartok, Mozart and Beethoven. conducted by Sachio Fundas. On Sunday soprano Susan Bullock and tenor Aled Hall are solvats in a cond tenor Aled Half are solosts in a concert by the Hellé Orchestra leaturing Mussongsiry's Pictures at an Erhebbon and Orth's Carmina burana, Owahn Arwel Hughes conducts the crohestra plined by the Hallé Chort and the Manchester Boys Chor. Bridgewather Hall, Lower Mosley Street (0161-907 9000) Perts, 7 30pm.

LONDON GALLERIES Barbleant James Ensor (0171-638 9891) Brunel: The European Expensive of the Middle East in European books and watercolours (0171-637 2388 ord

10171-63/ 2388 016 27331 - Europeen Academy & Accademie Italiana: Josefa do Obdos of Portugal (0171-235 0303) Hayward: Objects of Desire (0171-28 3144) - New Academy: Oxford Printmakers (0171-323 4700) - Royal Academy Sensations (0171-439 7439 rnumanes (p.17-323 4700) ... Royal Acadesty Sensatoris (p.171-439 7439) ... Tater Symbolsem in Britan 1860-1910 (p.171-987 9000) ... V & A: Carl and Karin Larsson: (p.171-983 8349/8441) ... Whitechepel David Alfaro Squeiros (p.171-522 7888)

THEATRE GUIDE

House full, returns only Some seats available Seats at all prices

☐ MY BOY JACK: First play by Dawd Harg with himself as Rudyard Kipling, urging his beloved son to go off to the trenches. Belinda Lang plays Mrs K Directed by John Dove Hempstead, Swiss Cottage Centre. Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre. NW3 (0171-722 9301) Mon-Sat. 8pm; mail Sal. 3.30pm

OVERBOARD: First of the Orange Tree's contributions to London's three month French Theatre Season Michel Vinaver's celebrated early play with re Vinaver's celebrated early play with its fruge cast of employees at a landlory paper factory. Sam Walters, directs 20 across playing 40 characters. Oratings Trea, Clarence Street. Richmond (0181-940 3633). Mon-Sat. 7 15pm. mats. Thur (Oct. 16) and Sat. 2 30pm. Until Nov. 1.

D POPCORN Bon Eltor 's birster cornedy about move volence. A Tarantmoesque director gets his come uppance when a couple of serial killers (Corey Johnson and Dena Davis) blame him for their misdeeds Apollo, Shartesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) Mon-Sel, Born, mats Wed, 3pm, and Sst, 4pm.

STEPPING OUT: Musical version of Richard Hams's hit play (music and

lyrics by Denis King and Mary Stewart David) Julia McKenzie directs Liz Robertson and her team of hopeful

ARbery, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (0171-369 1730) Mon-Sat, apm; mats Thur, 3pm and Sat, 4pm UNATTGERN William Henry lieland's termous Shakespeare longery, produced in its complete form for the first time in 200 years.

Bridewell, Bride Lane, London, EC4 (1171-928) 3459 Tue-Sat, 7 30pm; mat Sun, 3 30pm; Sun, 3 30pm.

a new version by William Fiernes, directed by Sarah Kane, Michael Shannon plays the universally put-upon Gate Theatre, Prince Albert Pub, 11 Pembridge Road, W11 (0171-229 070s) Opens tonight. 7 30pm Then Mon-Sal, 7.30pm. Until November 22

☐ WOYZECK: The Buchner season

continues with his most famous play, ir

LONG RUNNERS Cats: New London (0171-405 0072)

B Gresser Cambridge (0171-494 5080)

B An Inspector Calls: Gamck (0171-494 5085)

B Les Wissérables: Palace (0171-434 9089)

B Missérables: Palace (0171-434 9089)

B Missérables: Palace (0171-434 9089)

B Missérables: Dury Lane (0171-494 5400)

The Mousetrap.

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theetre.

CINEMA GUIDE

NEW RELEASES DARKLANDS (18) Pagan musis in post-industrial Wales Tame, unorigin low-budget horror movie, with Craig Fautoras Director Julian Richards NFT (0171-928 \$232) (5)

◆ A LIFE LESS ORDINARY (15) Jantor and American heress finally in love Odd mb. of cornedy, fantasy and romance from the Transporting and romance own up in appointing the most of the cameron Diaz. Director, Danny Boyle ASC Tottenham Court Read (D171-836 1418) Berblana (D (D171-836 1418) Berblana (D171-837 1425) Carefron (D181-315 4255) Kareberton (D181-315 4214) Michile Kareberton (D181-315 4214) Michile Kareberton (D181-36 4214) Michile Kareberton (D181-36 4214) Michile Careberton (D181-36 4214) Michile Careberton (D181-36 4214) Michile Careberton (D181-36 4214) Kensington (0181-315 4214) Marble Arch (0181-315 4216) Syrias Cottage (0181-315 4220) Plaza & (0990 888990) Screen/Baker Street (017)-335 2772) Screen/Green (0171-226

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MA VIE EN ROSE (12). Exuberant, ous and stylich French comedy about a seven-yéar-old boy's perermination to be a girl. Director, Alain ABC Swiss Centre (0171-439 4470)

Claphan Picture House (0171-498 3323) Curzon Mayfair (0171-369 1720) Richmond (0181-332 0030) Ri and (0181-332 0030) Ritzy ◆ THE PEACEMAKER (15) George Clooney and Nicole Fidman search Eastern Europe for stoken nuclear warheads. Muddled action blockbuster.

Geoff Brown's assessment o

films in London and (where indicated with the symbol •) on release across the country

Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) Empire (3) (0990 888990) Greenwich (0181-235 3005) Odeor Greenwich (0181-250 3000) Communication (0181-315 4214) Marthe Arch (0181-315 4216) Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4220) UCI Whiteleys (0181-315 4230) UCI Whiteleys (0181-315 4230) UCI Whiteleys (0181-315 4230) UCI Whiteleys (0181-315 4230)

(0990 888990) Virgina: Fulham Ros (0171-370 2636) Trocadero () (0171 434 0031) CURRENT AIR FORCE ONE (15): President

All FORCE UNIL [13] Pressoure
Hamson Ford gets higheried.
Preposterous, old-lashioned lun, with
Gary Oldman and Glenn Close Director,
Woltgang Petersen
Odeon Mezzanithe & (0.181-31-4.215)

Blanck Thoon Risports Warning & ◆ HERCULES (U) Great mythology

gets Disneyfied Lively family cartoo from Aladdin directors John Musiker and Ron Claments Claphum Picture House (0171-498 3323) Greenwich (0181-235 3005) 3323 Graemine (I/181-235-30,05) Obecons: Camden Town (1018-1315 4255) Kensington (I/181-315 4214) Lelceuter Squere (I/181-315 4215) Marbie Arch (I/181-315 4216) Swiss Cottage (I/181-315 4207) UCI Withmiere (I/1820-315 4207) UCI

◆ MY BEST FREEND'S WEDDING (12) Julia Roberts does her best to trip up Dermot Mulraney at the alter italigent romantic comedy, directed by P J Hogan. UCI Whiteleys (3) (0990 688990) Virgins: Chelsea (0171-352 509) Trocadoro & (0171-434 0031) Wa & (0171-434 0031) Wa

ebout a drug pusher's downlaif, from tor Nicolas Winding Refn SHOOTING FISH (12) Sprawling British comedy about young adventurers running scams. Not as good as it timbs Futterman, Kate Beckinsale, Director

g HBI Coronel (5) (017) -727 Notting Hill Coronet (§) (3171-727 \$705) Odeons: Camden Town (0181-315 4255) Kensington (0181-315 4214) Merble Arch (0181-315 4216) Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4220) West End (0181-315 4221) Pitzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Balter Street (0171-935 2772) UCI Whiteleys (§) (0990 888890)

WILDE (15): Stephen Fry as Oscar Wilde: fine and touching, shough the film is more timed then you might expect Conventional direction by Bran Gilbert. Berbican (5) (0171-638 8891) Clapham Picture House (0171-498 Barbican (2) (0171-638 8891) Clapham Pichare House (0171-498 3323) Greenwich (0181-325 3005) Odeoth: Camden Town (0181-315 4255) Haymaritet (0181-315 4212) Kensington (0181-315 4214) Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4224) Scream/Hill (0171-435 3366) UCI Wribbileys (0171-437 4343)



Real lives take a bow

owards the end of Aeschylus's Persians Darius rises from the tomb to criticise his son Xerxes for leading his nation to its defeat at Salamis in 480 BC. "Greece must be attacked no more," adds the ghost. And on comes Xerxes to mourn his fallen soldiers and lost glory. "Do you see these remnants of my torn robes?" he wails to a chorus of courtiers. It seems a biggish mental jump from

472 BC to AD 1997, when plays about recent social and political happenings are landing in numbers on West End stages. But those who, with me, worry about this trend should remember not just that Europe's earliest surviving drama involved real rather than mythic events, but that Aeschylus played the odd self-indulgent game with fact. Darius was far keener on lighting the Greeks than his son, and Xerxes doubtless found time for a change of clothes before returning home; but the dramatist wanted an extreme example

of hubris reduced to rags. So is there any great reason to complain when Snoo Wilson shows the Duke and Duchess of Windsor in their tropical hideaway, chatting fondly of Hitler or trying to cover up a shady deal with a German bank by pinning a compromising murder on an innocent man? Or when Hugh Whitemore gives us a Harold Macmillan who one moment tries to exploit the Profumo case for political gain, and the next talks of seeing the eyes of his wife's lover. Bob Boothby, whenever he looks at his alcoholic "daughter". Sarah? Aeschylus was into patriotic celebration, not scandalmongering, but it was he who established the genre and maybe pointed the way.

Both Wilson's HRH at the Playhouse

There is hardly an event

'docu-opera", and Modern

Music Theatre Troupe's new

show. Dirty Tricks, is a case in

point. Or is it? The publicity

insists that Dirty Tricks is not

about British Airways and

Virgin Atlantic, and that it

makes no mention of Richard

Branson, Lord King of Wart-

naby or even Margaret That-

cher. Early into the work the

narrator announces that

"nothing you hear or see is

true", and that appears to be

the moral of the piece.

in recent history that

has not been turned into

Playwrights have always tried to make a drama out of a political crisis — and quite

right too, says **Benedict Nightingale**

and Whitemore's Letter of Resignation at the Comedy opened last week. But the past months have also seen a prim Attlee chatting with a libidinous Tom Driberg in Stephen Churchett's Tom and Clem and, in a sentimental musical called Always, rather cuter versions of Edward and Wallis pledging their eternal troth while snooty politicians try to thwart them. Even Tom Stoppard has moved into the business of historical speculation, presenting us in The Invention of Love with the sight of A.E. Housman diffidently declaring his obsessive passion to the Oxford athlete who in life may

never have known how he felt. Film and television - an embarrassingly preposterous play about the Waleses' marriage dogs the memory -have often forced us to ask questions about the ethics and effectiveness of docudrama. But since Hochhuth's Soldiers, which back in 1969 accused Churchill of arranging the murder of General Sikorski, the theatre has caused little offence and less uproar on the oddly few occasions it has made realistic attempts to bring the living or recently dead on to the boards.

Is that cause for regret? It depends. With its unique immediacy and power. the genre has its limitations, starting with the degree of authority and credibility it can claim. How can we know what's true and what speculative

in HRH and A Letter of Resignation without the arguments, references and appendices you would get in any decent biography, but which would

swamp a theatre programme? Docudrama is hardly the fairest means of debating reputations or assessing a past that may have a bearing on the present. When the author has an agenda of his own, it can be tendentious and manipulative. After all, why do we continue to execrate Richard III? Largely because a skilful Tudor propagandist called Shakespeare demonised him in the most slanted history play ever written. Entertaining as it is, HRH is a small part of the current republican on-slaught on the House of Windsor.

rtistic concerns are raised by the genre, too. Dramatists trade on the frisson and L curiosity generated by names such as Churchill or Profumo, yet are trapped by them. After all, even the most exploitative imagination has to operate within rough boundaries of fact. Once you have recovered from the thrill of seeing Lord and Lady Lucan in their drawing room, you want a play that makes them as interesting as the testimony of their friends and enemies would provide it.

Myself, I believe nothing is more liberating and nothing truer than

fiction. Granville Barker does not specifically allude to the Parnell or Dilke cases in his Waste, now at the Old Vic. and, partly as a result, can bring the complexities of a cover-up richly to life. Arthur Miller wants to discuss McCarthyism, so he turns to an antique witch-hunt and in The Crucible produces a play that is about McCarthyism and the politics of persecution. David Hare wishes to examine the state of the Labour Party and actually tracks Neil Kinnock as he tours Britain before polling day in 1992; but in Absence of War he invents new characters and events, creating a piece that still says plenty about electioneering and the decline of socialism.

London

There are other possibilities, of course. In his Divine Right Peter Whelan imagined a disguised Prince William discovering tough truths about England. These days nobody can object to the principle of using real figures in futurism, fantasy or, for that matter, satire. Remember Edward Bond's Early Morning, in which Disraeli and Albert plotted a coup against Queen Victoria, who was having an affair with Florence Nightingale? You would have had to be an Albanian or North Korean to think you were watching a piece of reportage rather than a scurrilous comedy about the Establishment

I began with the triumph of Aeschylus, so let me end with the fate of his older contemporary Phrynichus, who wrote a play, now lost, about the Persians' defeat of the Miletans in 494. the Athenians by dramatising the conquest of their allies, and was given a heavy fine. Bringing recent history to

the theatre should surely attack every principals in Strindberg's Dance of subject, the more timely the better. Yet Death — yet somehow I doubt if the He didn't win a prize. In fact, he upset life was and remains a slippery task.

Excess baggage

Stephen Chance's unfunny rhyming libretto does, however, tell of "the maiden's voyages" and how charismatic Captain Dick, a figure who thinks he's cooler than he really is, wins the public's favour from the King, whose Oueen is a domineering, handbag-swinging lady... There is plenty of subversive potential here, but unfortu-

nately the work's impact is

MUSIC THEATRE Duty Tricks - Spitalfields

diluted by its undue length, its weak literary allusions, and by Chance's own unmodulated narration. The six men in suits strut their stuff on the cavernous Spitalfields Market Opera stage in an occasional chorusline routine, yet nothing really happens in Christopher Newell's production.

Paul Barker's score is no help - a disappointment, given that in the past he has found fresh ways of approaching music theatre. Even this, written for soprano, six bass baritones and one bass guitar. is unconventional. But the mixture of rap and thick-

ly grows wearisome, especialsince the same basic material comes back repeatedy and the singers tended to shout their way through the evening. One longed for a snatch of the hackneyed Lakmé duet, but perhaps BA controls the rights these days. There is potential here for a very short amusing sketch, but sitting through this opera felt like being in the baggage hold of any airline's long-haul

textured harmonisation quick-

JOHN ALLISON

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ne classic way of dealing

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verse — or perhaps just a member

this story. But more of that later.

Ten days ago the most tremen-

We're elitist, racist and irrelevant'

tion from it, is to assert that matters are much worse in America. Believe me, that isn't my this sort of sniping, of course. Such proud-to-be-philistine politicians as Jesse Helms and Newt Gingintention in retailing the following cautionary cultural tale from across the Atlantic Quite the rich have been doing it for years. opposite. You would have to be Unfortunately, the report doesn't peculiarly myopic, stupid or percome from them. It comes from the National Endowment for the Arts. of the Arts Council — not to detect roughly the American equivalent of our Arts Council. In other British parallels at every turn in words, these stinging accusations emanate from the very organisdous storm broke in the American ation set up to promote serious

arts world. A vast, painstakingly culture in America. researched report was published No wonder the report - American Canvas, an Arts Legacy for our Communities - sent gloom — 193 pages in all — that accuses America's prime cultural institutions of being elitist, effectively and doom through the arts world. racist and largely isolated from the Particularly since it also noted that communities they purport to serve. They have become the private preserve of a wealthy few. Intent on preserving their little empires. private gifts to the arts (a crucial plank of American arts fundinglare declining disastrously: the annual total has fallen by £150 they haven't noticed that they are irrelevant to tens of millions of million in just three years. Study Links Drop in Support to Elitist exple. It's "a recipe for disaster,"

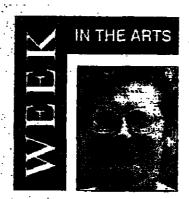
Attitude in the Arts," proclaimed the front page of The New York

Well, there's nothing new about Times last week. Not the punchiest people. It's "a recipe for disaster,"

headline ever written, but it made the fatal connection that has caused such dismay.

.Can you imagine our own cosy little Arts Council coming up with something as tough, brave and cogent as the NEA's extraordinary study in self-excoriation? No. me neither. "Sad to say," the report notes, "many American citizens fail to recognise the direct relevance of art to their lives." It blames many things: the lack of arts in schools; the hostile political climate (the NEA itself only es-caped abolition by a whisker last month); and the enervating con-sumerist ethos that art is something you watch other people do.

rather than do yourself.
But chiefly the NEA claims that the arts world has brought much of its "marginalisation" on itself. "The arts community," the report says, "has neglected those aspects of participation, democratisation and popularisation that might



have helped to sustain the arts when the political climate turned sour." In the past 30 years the arts sector in America has certainly expanded spectacularly: there are now 120 professional opera companies where there were 27 in 1964, 400 dance companies instead of 37.

425 theatre companies instead of 56. But audience growth has failed to keep up. It is now apparent, the report says, that merely maintaining the status quo is neither desirable nor even possible". And in a mammoth coda to this symphonie pathétique it suggests about a million ways in which the arts must change to survive.

It would be fun, but rather space-consuming, to report in detail the squealing chorus of out-rage, feigned incredulity and panic that this report has provoked among great American arts institutions in the past week. Some denounced it as treachery, a "Trojan Horse" of a document, pur-porting to help the arts but actually hastening their demise by playing into the hands of the Jesse Helms brigade. Others blamed the arts' lack of popular appeal on that convenient contemporary phenomenon, "dumbing down". Others claimed to have excellent

place, and therefore argued that accusations of "elitism" were out of date. And so on. Almost nobody of any standing seemed to accept that there might be some truth in the

That is America's problem. Our problem is that you can devour huge chunks of Canvas America and quite easily believe that you are reading Canvas UK. Of course our arts scenes are not exactly comparable. America's institutions are much more vulnerable to charges of elitism because they are so dependent on wealthy patrons (though Covent Garden is fast going that way).
Our state schools have not yet entirely erased the arts from the curriculum. And although the social fabric of Britain is far more diverse than it was 50 years ago, it has nothing like the anguished polarities of the average American have a chance of breaking through cultural barriers that, I fear, are impenetrable in America.

Even so, the NEA's report should be a wake-up call for us as well as them. Engraved on the Kennedy Centre in Washington DC is a fine quotation from JFK himself: This country cannot afford to be materially rich and spiritually poor." The NEA has been hold enough to tell those running the arts in America that by perpetuating an aloof, clubby, unwelcoming image they are con-tributing to spiritual poverty, not helping to eradicate it.

Now some British arts luminary should pluck up the courage to make the same point here. Unfor-tunately, when it comes to telling their chums unpalatable truths. our leading luvvies - normally so full of windy rhetoric - fall strangely silent. Never mind. If you know how to work the Internet (or can bribe some bright nine-year-old to do it for you) Canvas America can be found in full on http://arts.endow.gov. It is grip-ping stuff. Read it and weep.

Finland's finest bows into London

linnish nationality is not in itself a passport to success in the interna tional Jean Sibelius Violin Competition, held in Helsinki. Pekka Kuusisto, who was only 18 at the time (1995), was in fact the first Finn to win the prestigious competition, and he went on to make a highly acclaimed recording of the

the report asserts.

Sibelius Violin Concerto. His Wigmore Hall date on Tuesday night marked his London recital debut, and with it he confirmed his rapidly growing reputation as one of the outstanding young artists of his time.

Beginning with Bach's Par-tita in E Major BWV1006 for solo violin, he displayed both stylistic insight and technical accomplishment of the highest order. By subtle use of dynamic shading and varied articulation he was able to suggest the implied counterpoint in the long single melodic lines, and the sharp, snappy rhythms of the Gavotte en Rondeau put a spring in the step of this

Schnittke's Sonata No I, in which Kuusisto was accompanied confidently by his compatriot Raija Kerppo, moves

from a space 12-note theme through a passionate Largo introducing the B-A-C-H motif, to a characteristically iron-ic finale. Kuusisto had the measure of it all, and showed equal assurance in Ravel's Sonata for violin and piano, with its bluesy central movement — the jazz glissandi given full rein - and wildly virtuosic perpetuum mobile

In Prokofiev's Cinq Mélodies Op 35b. Kuusisto, again accompanied in exemplary fashion by Kerppo, was able to-draw on the whole range of tonal colours, from the veiled. muted opening through the pizzicato Lento to the more forceful finale. Yet each movement, too, had the essentially lyrical impulse that underpins these pieces, originally conelebrated dance movement. ceived as a set of songs without

MILLINGTON

Perm any possible solution



Hair-brained plot the suspects include Jim Sweeney (Customer No I) and Nicola Stapleton (sexy assistant Barbara)

title, Shear Madness, this interacmurdertive comedy has become the longest-running non-musical play that side of the Atlantic. It enjoyed a previous life as Scherenschnitt, written by a German psychologist to demonstrate how people can mis-

perceive reality. The first 30 minutes is pretty dreadful stuff. A gay hair-dresser, his sexy girl-assistant, a couple of male customers and a battleaxe all say and do their expected things in a style that vanished from the West End with the death of camp revue. Upstairs a pianist endlessly plays Rachmaninov, and everyone goes in and out of the various doors to provide them with the opportunity to be the pianist's murderer. The direction (by Neil Mullarkey)

is basically competent.
Then something unprecedented happens. The pianist is dead, the police arrive and Lee Simpson's Inspector comes down to the front of the stage and asks us to help to reconstruct the opening 30 minutes. The salon's staff and customers throw up their hands at the sight of us. and the interesting part of the evening begins.

The audience asks questions - who was the battleaxe really phoning? How did Customer No I get blood on his fingers?

THEATRE Scissor Happy

and the actors have to come up with persuasive explanations. The adapters of the play (Mullarkey, Simpson and Jim Sweeney) must have prepared answers to scores of possible inquiries, because documentary support for the explanations brought out from pockets and cupboards and briefcase. One member of the audience is invited on to the stage to ring the battleaxe's home number and is drawn into a conversation with a cleaning-lady.

Sweeney, playing Customer No 1, develops an enjoyable line of weary sarcasm when yet another one of us queries his behaviour. Personal remarks are flung in all directions: audience comments draw laughter from audience and stage alike. The cast keep in character and with four obvious suspects, including Paul Clayton's queen, Bridget Armstrong's Knightsbridge matron and Nicola Stapleton's sexy assistant, there is a choice of murderer to vote for. Jolly fun, and as for the capacity to misperceive reality, mine was

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If this is the Scream I'm Edvard Munch

PRIMAL SCREAM

Echo Dek (Creation CRECD 224 £15.99) HALFWAY between a vanity project and a cash-cow, the remix album occupies an uncomfortable position in the scheme of things. Ostensibly aimed at the dance market, its appeal naturally incorporates a certain curiosity value for fans of a particular act or

Echo Dek is a new version of Primal Scream's awardwinning album. Vanishing Point, remixed, reassembled and retitled by Adrian Sher-wood at his On-U Sound Studios in East London. In Sherwood's hands the songs are "reconstructed as huge. towering, millennial-dub symphonies", according to the group's spin-doctors. Or, to put it another way, stripped of nearly all words and melodies. then bounced through echo chambers and reverb units until they are reduced to a virtually unrecognisable soup of floating rhythmic grooves

and spooky sound-effects. There are some great bits and pieces. Duffed Up retains the cool, jazzy vibe of Get Duffy, only now the horns dance around the melody like flames in a fire, while JU-87, one of two new arrangements of Stuka, builds some wonderful trip-hop dynamics behind various bleeping effects, including what sounds like an Avon Lady doorbell.

CDs reviewed in The Times can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345 023498 POP ALBUMS

But, while the strange, tangential snippets of musical conversation must have seemed marvellously clever and fun to the participants, you cannot help noticing how self-absorbed and ultimately rather boring it all eventually becomes.

OZRIC TENTACLES
Curious Corn

(Snapper Music SMACD 502 E11.99)

FROM a high point four years ago, when their album Jurassic Shift almost reached the Top Ten. Ozric Tentacles have rather slipped from view. But for a group which has stuck so resolutely to resurrecting the sound of progressive-rock pioneers such as Steve Hillage and Gong, outsider/cult status is surely the best they can ever have hoped to achieve.

As befits an act that was first convened around a campfire at the Stonehenge Solstice Festival in 1982, the sleeve of their latest album, Curious Corn. comes decorated with pictures of a pyramid and flying saucers zapping the cornfields below.

The Big Picture

THE CORRS

section's revenge. But, as well But if Ozric Tentacles as singing in a voice as clear present an easy target for hip. metropolitan reviewers, as and composed as cut glass. Wiggs plays guitar, drums, musicians they are nobody's keyboards and even a bit of fools, and the seven instrucello on a haunting version of mental tracks reflect a level of the old Beach Boys song Til I artistry and expertise more commonly found in jazz. Many of the numbers, such as the aptly-named Afroclonk

and the sinuous title track, are

built around choppy rhythms

set in awkward time signatures and embellished with

exotic touches of instrumenta-

tion that sound vaguely Mid-

dle Eastern in origin. While the themes are carefully struc-

tured, the improvisations are

passion, making this an al-

bum of skill and incongruous

THE JOSEPHINE WIGGS

(Grand Royal GRO35 £14.49)

GIVEN a line-up dominated

by Josephine Wiggs (bass player in the Breeders) and

Jon Mattock (former drum-

mer with Spacemen 3 and

Spiritualized), with contribu-

tions from guitarist Audu

Obaje, you might expect the

heavy case of the rhythm

. Eternal (EMI)

Jam (Polydor/Polygram TV)
...... Portishead (Gol Beat)
...... Jimmy Nail (East West)

EXPERIENCE

TOP TEN ALBUMS

All in all, Bon Bon Lifestyle is a delicately crafted diversion that adds a cool tang of folk and jazz-noir to an alternative-pop base.

GARY NUMAN

(Eagle EAG 008 £13.99)
WHILE it will take more to rehabilitate Gary Numan than the recent multi-artist tribute album, Random, and a few supportive quotes from latterday electronica stars such as Liam Howlett and Trent Reznor, there is no doubt that the android man's stock is more buoyant than it has been at any time since the

late 1980s. Even so, his new album Exile, rarely rises above the mundane, with songs such as Prophecy and The Angel Wars failing to transcend the emo-tionally flat, disengaged tone of his delivery. The religious theme running through numbers such as Dead Heaven, Absolution and Innocence Bleeding is handled with the same air of blank detachment, and lines such as "I don't believe in the virgin birth/I don't believe in the cross on the hill" are dispatched with all the passion of someone checking off a shopping list.

The cruellest irony is that Numan now sounds as if he is travelling in the wake of those acts he once influenced, most obviously Tears For Fears and Depeche Mode. He was an original talent, but you wouldn't know it to listen to this.

DAVID SINCLAIR



Take Primal Scream's album, Vanishing Point, remix it and change the song titles, and what have you got? A bore

I saw a bad moon rising. Singers started being in films again, and so the stock market crashed

Pop up and down the City road

T's not that difficult to be psychic. In fact, I did it on Tuesday. Of course, I had to do something showy to prove my mystical powers and impress my friends — like slit open the belly of the drummer from a third-division. Britpop band and poke around in his steaming entralls with a spooky stick while staring up at a waxing moon with crossed eyes — before I muttered: "There will be a stock market crash before the end of the week."

week."

Of course, those of you who read the financial pages of the newspapers will be saying: "Pooh! I know that! In fact," everyone knows that by now."

(As for those who are saying "What are the financial pages of the newspapers?", they're the ones that have charts with ICI and Railtrack at No!, rather than the Spice Girls. Although, what with all those crisps/pop/deodorant Spice wedge-creation schemes, who

knows what 1998 will see?)

Anyway, the predictions on the financial pages come from adding up numbers, drawing graphs and making gaudily coloured pie-charts-based on the number of fridges sold in Telford in August — in other words, the kind of thing we did in school at the age of II, and found we all had different answers.

But surely we've all grown older and wiser than those days, when painting your hands with glue and rubbing them together to make grimy rubber glue-balls thrilled us more than the idea of having sex or smoking fags?

No. Which is precisely why my Stock Market Crash Prediction Method is far more reliable — indeed, infallible — and adult. And it is simply this: lots of pop stars are currently appearing in films.

Damon Albarn made a fairly creditable effort as a wideboy who looked adorably grimy and swore a bit in Face: Mark E. Smith from the Fall has made his acting debut as a social worker in a BBC adaptation of Dostoevsky's Notes from the Underground; and Shaun Ryder from Black

Grape has flexed his "Reaction shot, darling" muscles in the film of The Avengers, which is out next year. Can you guess what kind of role Ryder might have been cast in? Yes, that's right — he's a gangster. One boggles at how easy it must actually be to be a casting director.

he a casting director.

Of course, that's just the pop thesps for this year. Over the past three years, we have had Courtney Love in The People is Larry Flynt; J. Mascis from Dinosaur Inr in Gas, Food and Lodging; Marilyn Manson in Lost Highway; and Eddie Vedder from Pearl Jam doing something in a generic slacker movie that I've thankfully managed to go all "the name's on the tip of my tongue" on.

The last time a slew of pop stars went all Hollywood on us was in the mid to late 1980s, when Grace Jones did A View

to A Kill, Spandau Ballet's Kemp twins did The Krays ("Two stars from one sperm" could have been the advertising catchline, but sadly wasn't), and the Pet Shop Boys cringed all the way through It

Couldn't Happen Here. Oneyear after, it did —
the stock markets
crashed. Paul
McCartney's Give
my Regards to
Broad Street singlehandedly precipitated the early 1980sfinancial slump,
and the big wave

CAITLIN ed of the Mick Jaged of the Mick Jaged of the Mick Jagger and David
Bowie debacles of the early 1970s,
rling which meant that every single

service industry went on strike shortly thereafter.

Pop stars being cast in films is pure financial thinking. If Ryder gets more than 30 lines in *The Avengers*, I'll be very surprised. But 30 lines is enough to get every Black

Grape fan, who normally wouldn't dream of going to see

release. When thinking like this becomes prevalent in an industry where casting directors should be thinking about who would be best in a role, are rather than who would be the most amusing and lucrative, it's a sure-fire bet that the stock in markets are riding feverishly high and everyone's favourite word is, once again, profit.

frourse a pop star isn't going to be as good in a role as a "proper" actor. Proper actors go through years of training, amateur stage productions, repertory and tiny roles as a dentist with a nasty rope burn in Casually before they breach the big screen.

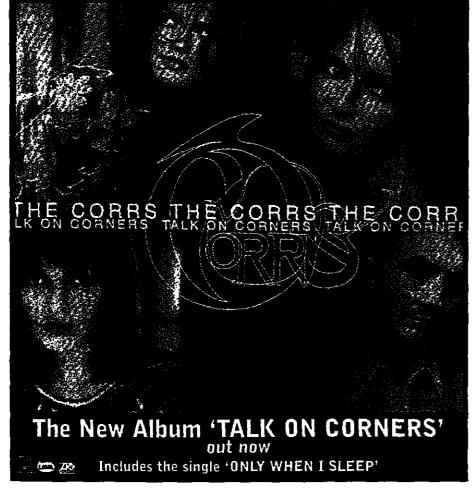
Pop stars have spent those same years trying to set fire to their own legs with lighter fuel, and attempting to burp all of *The Frog Chorus* whilst travelling from Droitwich to Hull in a Transit van. Who, I wonder, will have learnt more about human emotion and motivation?

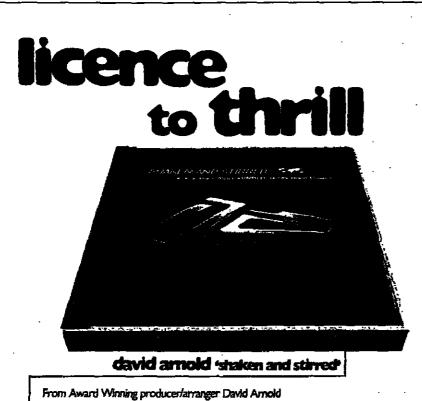
Sadly, however, all pop stars seem to think they are good actors. "I have a public image, but it's not really me. I'm more complex than a beery, shouty man who wears odd trousers." the thinking goes. "So I'm, like, acting when I'm on stage and doing interviews."

No, you're not, as I'm no more writing a novel when I get together 800 words about a Chumbawamba gig. Drunken big idiots.

Still, I don't blame pop stars for wanting to go all TV and films on us. When Nick Berry from Heartbeat, Jimmy Nail, Robson and Jerome, Kylie Minogue and that Natalie bird from Neighbours have all cluttered up the Top Ten in recent months and years, instead of sitting in trailers desperately trying to memorise the words "But Mrs Dryden, I can'tt", then this current air of tit for tat is understandable.

Understandable, that is, until the stock markets crash, and they all have to go back to mini-cabbing for a living.





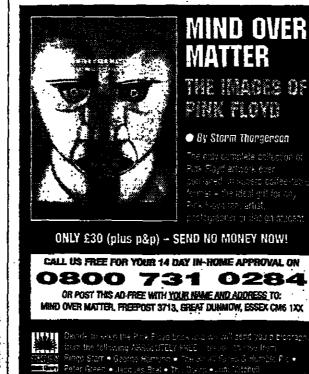
comes a sophisticated tribute to the world of Bond.

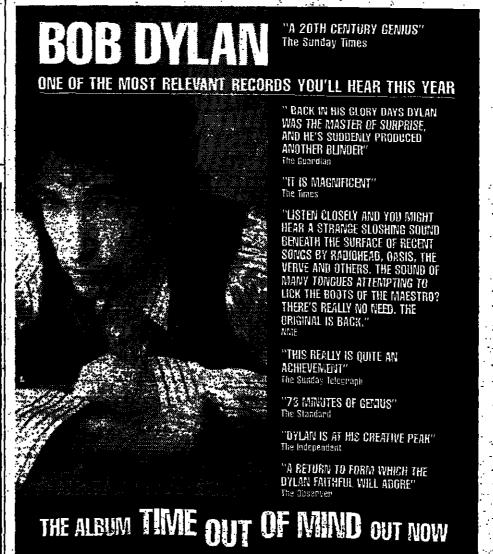
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Don't bang on about canons

THE TIMES FRIDAY OCTOBER 24 1997

If jazz is not to become like Baroque music, it has to roll with the times,

Pat Metheny tells Clive Davis

ust before coming to London, Pat Metheny had been a guest of honour at new cultural centre devoted o Kansas City's musical heriage. A local boy made good, Metheny served part of his apprenticeship in the town hat produced Charlie Parker nd the Count Basic orchestra, to it gave him particular bleasure to be invited along ith the likes of Tony Bennett. One thing troubled him, wever. When he looked at a pronology outlining the histbry of jazz, he saw that it pped at 1968 - the implicaon being that the past three cades have been little more han an elaborate process of Metheny, who has been at



he top of the tree almost long nough to qualify as a grizzled eteran, sees it differently. In a areer that has swung beeen commercially successful sion music and the stormiest itposts of the avant-garde. s unlikely guitar hero has ngaged in a quixotic search r a contemporary language. "I'm always glad to see more

people learning about the reat music of the past," he ays. "My concern is that I lon't really believe in the idea hat jazz is a repertory music.
here are exceptions to be finade for large ensembles, but the fine of the beauties of jazz is that there will never be

nother Miles Davis, or nother Louis Armstrong, You an have tributes to all these nusicians for days, but the hing that makes them great is

Talk of a jazz canon unsetles him most of all. That neans it's going to be like Baroque music," he says. "Unortunately, that's a really arrong trend at the moment. But I don't think it will do any body going to know what it major harm, because the one was like? They can listen to constant element in this music's history has been the people who have come along and said Yes, but

His latest album, Imaginary -Day, finds Metheny back with

his regular group — featuring keyboard player Lyle Mays after two years of more varied collaborative recordings. Be-yond The Missouri Sky, a series of introspective duets with his close friend Charlie Haden, the bass player, has been one of the surprise bestsellers of the year. He can also be heard on Michael Brecker's acclaimed Tales From the Hudson. A few weeks ago came the howling dissonances of The Sign of 4, a gruelling atonal session with free impro-

visation guru Derek Bailey. To my ears, the Bailey collaboration is all but unlistenable. Yet you cannot help admiring Metheny for his determination to test himself in such inhospitable waters. He did much the same a decade ago with Song X, a controversial encounter with Ornette Coleman:

All of which forms a heady contrast to the pastel textures of his working band. While so many fusion guitarists get by on pure machismo, Metheny is an unfailingly subtle impro-viser, despite the roll call of guitar synth technology that usually adorns his album sleeves, he produces lines of

exceptional simplicity.
Lyle Mays's florid keyboards have always been much more of a drawback (though obviously not for the guitarist, since their partner-ship goes back 20 years). And to anyone used to the subtle cross-thythms of acoustic jazz, the soft-rock pulse of the Metheny band tends to sound flat-footed.

But that, in a roundabout way, brings us back to his insistence on finding a path that connects with our own times. Jazz has always been at its most potent, he argues, when it has had a direct connection with the popular music of the day. The last two years of playing straight-ahead jazz have, if anything, brought that point home to

him even more strongly.
"Even though I've enjoyed it, and it's the music I grew up with, something's been eating me about it. You know, shouldn't we be doing something more vital to the age we're living in? When I hear a Miles Davis record from the Fifties not only do I hear a great record, I get a sense of how people talked then, how they walked, what they wore.

"It's like a watermark built into the music. But if we don't mark our time, how is anypop music and they'll find a lot of it, but there's something in jazz and improvising that is more immediate and tactile." • Imaginary Day is released by Nigel Williamson finds Loudon Wainwright III a man still obsessed — with himself



Will the real Loudon Wainwright III stand up? Is this the unflinchingly naked autobiographical writer who upsets his family, or the comic, red-nosed creator of funny songs?

Natural-born performer

lot of people keep private diaries. Loudon Wainwright .III makes albums about his most personal experiences, and almost nothing is considered too intimate. He is the Alan Clark of the songwriting world, and he admits that not everyone appreciates his going public.

"Certain family members, ex-wives and children have some of the songs," he says. But I try to be truthful. I look at what I write and ask, is this true or is it gratuitous? There is a craft in songwriting that maybe causes you to exagger-ate, but art works best when

it's honest.' Honesty with Wainwright seems to be a compulsion. His new album Little Ship is the third in a trilogy of what are, in effect, private musical diaries, an approach which has

career which now spans almost 30 years and 16 albums. The latest effort charts a recently fractured relationship with his usual mix of wry observation, painful self-examination, heavy irony, indulgent silliness and the occasional pro-

fundity. His last album, Grown Man, was effort about hitting the age of 50, while History, the album before that, was a family chronide that made the listener feel positive-

ly voveuristic. "I'm an exhibitionist or a masochist. The rule of writing is to

write about what you know, and I'm obsessed with myself. It's not necessarily a good thing but that's what I do. I get off on showing the warts. I am self-absorbed, but I'm so interesting — to me anyway. Some people find it irritating. The artful thing is to take that selfabsorption and fashion it into a three-minute song that can engage other people

Yet there are at least two Loudon Wainwrights. If one is the unflinchingly naked autobiographical writer, the other is the comic, red-nosed performer who ever since the novelty song Dead Skunk in 1972 - still his only hit single - has enjoyed a reputation as one of the best humorous songwriters since the days of Tom Lehrer. Despite its serious subject-matter there is

comedy running through his new album, and I ask him if he sometimes uses the humour as a self-defence to prevent facing up to awkward feelings. "You don't think, let's add

some more irony here, when you're writing a song. The low humour I use is just part of my style. But Freud way of allowing the unconscious to talk safely about horrible things. That's why you ex-plode with laughter, because you've

touched something

deep.
"Since I am writing about sensitive subjects the humour can leaven it and make it less dreary. There was a time when I went overboard on the sarcasm and irony. I got a reputation as someone who could make an audience laugh. and I allowed that to take over. And, yes, maybe I did use it as a way not to open up."

trained as an actor, has always had a loyal following in Britain, particularly for his live shows. "I'm a natural performer. When I was seven I discovered that I liked showing off. When there's 2,000 people in the dark watching and the lights are all on you, I find that delightful," he says.

In the early part of his career, along with Bruce

and various other long-forgotten singer-songwriters, he competed for the tag "the new Dylan". It was a silly tag which he is still having to deal with a quarter of a century later, even though his style has never remotely resembled the great man's. "We use the same chords," he remarks caustically. "My songs have always been very specific, nothing

Dylan's songs are mysterious and strange and fabulous. I'm much more mundane." As part of a large group of pop performers still making music in their fifties. Wain-

wright is also different in that he is one of the few confident enough to tackle the subject of ageing. "I've always written about what is happening, and one of the things that is going on is that I'm getting older. It's horrible but it's so interesting

it isn't happening would seem very strange. I was watching the Rolling Stones launch their new tour and they have to present this image of swaggering around. It must be very tiring for them." Surprisingly Wainwright

has seldom turned his acid

powers of observation on the

to write about. To pretend that

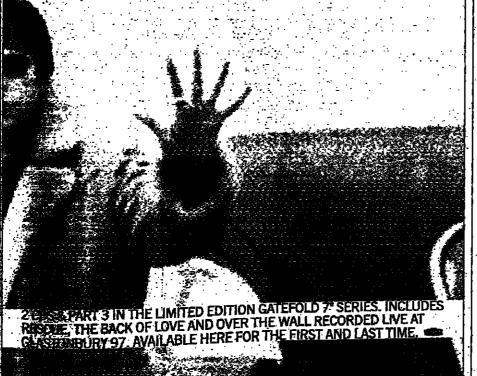
political world, although he does sometimes perform topisongs on American ional Public Radio. "It's easy to attack Newt Gingrich or make fun of Bill Clinton, it's like musical journalism. But 1 never was a radical. I grew my hair and smoked dope and sat around but I was much too self-absorbed to be political. I didn't march or protest although I did dodge the draft.

I've always been more concerned with the politics of me." Writing, he says, is like fishing. You're sitting out there in the boat for hours but when you've got one it doesn't take long to land it. I'm fishing all the time but I can go long periods with nothing. then a batch of them comes along. He looks forward to the day when he is eclipsed by the success of two of his children, Rufus and Martha, now recording artists in their own

"I've brought them on in my iws but they're talented to make that dangerous. I'm hoping they're going to be very successful and buy me a house someday soon: Until then I'll just carry on sitting in the boat."

 Little Ship is released by Virgin. Loudon Wainwright plays London Union Chapel tonight and tomor row, Oxford Playhouse Sunday, Liverpool Philharmonic Hall Oct 28, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall Oct 29 and Warwick Arts Centre

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A touch of class

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JOE HENDERSON Porgy & Bess (Verve 539 048-2)

GIVEN that the bulk of tenor saxophonist Joe Henderson's much-lauded 1990s studio work has consisted of Grammy-attracting concept albums centring on music by, or associated with, the likes of Billy Strayhorn, Miles Davis and Antonio Carlos Jobim,

cynics might be forgiven for approaching his latest project Gershwin's Porgy & Bess with a certain degree of wariness. The sheer class and consummate artistry of the result, however - as with all the above albums - swiftly disarms such criticism. Henderson's neat, elegant sextet and septet arrangements, centred on his own peerless soloing, perfectly complemented by guitarist John Scoffeld. eloquently reproduce all the opera's emotional subtleties, and even the obligatory guest vocal appearances by Chaka Khan and Sting are relatively painless. The uniquely cultured power of Henderson's playing with just the rhythm section .— drummer. Jack DeJohnette and bassist Dave Holland - though, will make

JAZZ ALBUMS

many of his admirers think nostalgically of his classic trio albums, The State of the Tenor and The Standard Joe.

HOLLY SLATER The Mood Was There (Ronnie Scott's Jazz House JHCD 053) TENOR player Holly Slater

won the first Sun Alliance Young Jazz Musician of the Year award in 1996, and this album, recorded with two rhythm sections at Ronnie Scott's earlier this year, contains seven good reasons why. Slater cites the late Dexter Gordon as one of her chief influences, and both her tone - a pleasantly foggy sound infused with sinewy strength on up-tempo numbers and easy, relaxed swing on ballads and her almost palpable eagerness to explore the possibilities of chord sequences recall the great man. Her two originals, however, hint at considerable compositional potential and suggest that she has a fine career ahead of her.

Chris Parker



He added there was a world of

difference between restraining a

party from pursuing foreign

proceedings, on the ground that pursuit would breach a valid

agreement not do so, and restrain-

ing him, because one did not trust

the foreign court either to apply an

international convention or to act

However, Mr Silverleaf con-

tended that even if the Dutch courts were right, neither they nor

the English courts could reach a

final determination of the true

construction of the convention:

only the European Court of Justice

could do that, and until it did, the High Court should exercise its

locatory relief so as to prevent irreparable damage to his clients.

On that being rejected, he had finally sought an injunction, limited to preserving the status quo peading an appeal to the Court of Appeal. But his Lordship's repognance to any order having the effect of stifling the Dutch proceedings, was so profund, that he

ings was so profound that he would not even go that far, although agreeing it was highly desirable for the Court of Appeal to

review the issues as early as

clear that he had no reason to believe the Dutch court would not

deal fairly with the petitioners, nor did he think its views on the construction of the Brussels Convention clearly wrong. Either

its view, or the English one was tenable. Only one could be right. Which, would eventually be for the

European Court of Justice to

herent jurisdiction to grant inter-

Conflict of approach on patent rights

In re European Patent (UK) No 189958 in the name of Akzo Nobel NV In re a Petition by Fort Dodge Animal Health Ltd

and Others Before Mr Justice Laddie

lega) proceedings.

Judgment October 161 The High Court would not accede to an application which, at its heart, was an attempt to prevent a ensible jurisdiction to entertain

Mr Justice Laddie so held in the Chancery Division in refusing applications for interlocutory relief relating to a petition by (i) Fort Dodge Animal Health Ltd. (ii) Arthur Webster Pty Ltd. (iii) Web-ster Animal Health (UK) Ltd. (iv) Willows Francis Ltd and (v) Fort Dodge Animal Health Benelux BV to revoke a patent licensed by Ak20 Nobel NV, a Dutch company, to Intervet International NV, another

Article 2 of the Brussels Convention 1968, in Schedule I to the Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982, provides: "... persons domiciled in a contracting state shall . . . be sued in the courts of that state," Article to provides: "The follow-

ing courts shall have exclusive jurisdiction, regardless of domicile: ... (4) in proceedings con-cerned with the registration or validity of patents, trade marks, designs or other similar rights required to be deposited or registered, the courts of the contracting state in which the deposit or registration has been applied for.

has taken place..."
Article 19 provides: "Where a court of a contracting state is seised of a claim which is principally concerned with a matter over

contracting state have exclusive jurisdiction by virtue of article 16, it shall declare of its own motion that it has no jurisdiction."

Mr Michael Silverleaf, OC, for the petitioners: Mr Peter Prescott, QC and Mr Adrian Speck for Akzo

MR JUSTICE LADDIE said that intellectual property litigation in general, patent litigation in particular in Europe, was in some disarray thanks to unedifying competition to secure jurisdiction over proceedings, the present application being its latest manifestation.

Legal background
Until recently, intellectual property rights had been viewed as

entirely national in scope and effects so a UK right, effective only in the UK, could only be infringed by activities in the UK and UK courts would not try issues of validity or infringement of any foreign right.
For many years international conventions had facilitated cre-

ation of parallel and separate national rights: for example, a German inventor could protect his patent in the UK and France as well as Germany and choose whether to litigate in any or all three but he could not ask UK courts to decide whether an equivalent German patent was

Recently, however, Dutch courts had begun to grant cross-border injunctions, for example, to stop a Dutch national from infringing a UK patent, or a British national, who had done nothing within Dutch jurisdiction, from infringing a French patent.

Brussels Convention such an order would have to be enforced by

Pearce v Ove Arup Partnership Ltd ([1997] 3 All ER 310), Coin Controls Ltd v Suzo Interna (UK) Ltd ([1997] 3 All ER 45) and Mecklermedia v DC Congress (1997) FSR 627) had addressed the

In Coin Controls, his Lordship sing himself on articles 16(4) and 19, had concluded that where both validity and infringement of a red patient were in issue, validity was a principal issue which had, together with intringement, to be determined in the court of the state in which it was

It was apparently well known that the Dutch courts thought his decision wrong and had no intention of following it. Current dispute

Akzo owned a basket of patents, derived from an application pros-ecuted through the European Parent Office in Munich, in particular, virtually identical Dutch and UK patents relating to caning parvovirus vaccines.

The first, third and fourth petitioners. domiciled in England; the second, in Australia; and fifth, in Holland, were companies in a group making and selling such vaccines, said to be from a different

strain of virus. In April 1997, Akao had begun ex parte patent infringement proceed-ings in Holland against the petitioners, and another Dutch company, seeking relief for breaches of its Dutch patent in Holland and of its British patent here under a new accelerated procedure which might lead to a

full trial on November 7. On September 22, the netitioners sought revocation, here, of Akzo's UK patent. It was common ground that, in respect of alleged infringecourt would not consider granting final relief until its validity had been determined here, but considered itself to have power to grant Akzo interlocutory relief.

The petitioners, pointing out that 99 per cent of all relevant acts had been done in the UK. claimed that that turned the Convention, the concept of forum conveniens and international county upside down, and was a blacant attempt at forum-shopping.

Had Akza sued for interlocutory relief in the UK, and there was grant of such relief would do immense damage to their busi-ness, it would have failed; not least because the petitioners' product had been on the UK market for five

They therefore sought, from the High Court, an order that Akzo (a) bringing any action for relief The Netherlands in respect of Akzo's patent by reason of any act committed within the jurisdiction of the High Court

(b) permitting any licensee of either of them to bring any such

(c) seeking to register, enforce or otherwise benefit from any such relief obtained in The Netherlands by any such reason. Mr Silverleaf accented that his argument led to the conclusions

that not only were the Dutch courts wrong in their construction of the Convention, but so also had been Pearce and Coin Controls: further, to an assertion that the Dutch courts could not be trusted to mend His Lordship, after considering a number of other submissions on

behalf of the pentioners, said that

even if convinced that one or more

and 197 of the 1996 Act. The applicant had submitted that he

was entitled to claim unfair dis-

missal norwithstanding section

197, since the correct principle was

that set out by Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, in British

Broadcasting Corporation v Ioannou (1975) QB 781), that where

there was a series of contracts each

being renewed the final contract

was the relevant one to consider to

ascertain the requisite fixed term.

Since the applicant's final contract

Solicitors: Linklaters & Paines.

that an employee was dismissed if he is employed under a contract for a fixed term and that term expires without being renewed

under the same contract", the statute envisaged that the term could be renewed without a new

contract being made, but with the old contract continuing.

In order to determine whether or

not there was a dismissal, it was necessary to distinguish whether

there was a renewal of the term

under the old contract, an exten-

Police and prosecution can be liable in tort

Bennett v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis and Another

Before Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor Judgment October 7

Public policy did not exempt the police and the Crown Prosecution Service from the tort of mis-feasance in public office committed in the course of the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offence. If the requisite elements of the tort were pleaded and made out they would be liable in the same way as any other holder of public office.

Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor, so held in the Chancery Division when granting sum-monses by the first defendant, the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis and the second defendant, the Crown Prosecution Service, to strike out an action brought by Paul James Bennett as disclos ing no reasonable cause of action.

Mr James Lewis for the Commissioner of Police: Miss Clare Montgomery, QC, for the Crown Prosecution Service: Mr Alan Newman, QC and Mr Brian Jubb for Mr Bennett.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR said that Mr Bennett, a citizen of New Zealand, was arrested by police in South Africa and placed on a flight to London, purpostedly for onward flight to New Zealand. On landing at Heathrow, however, he was arrested by the Metropoli-tan Police and charged with of-fences under the Theit Act 1978 in connection with the obtaining of a helicopaer by deception. He was subsequently committed for trial at

Mr Bennett applied for judicial review of his committal on the ground that the circumstances in which he came to be in London. were the result of an irregular attempt to evade the requirement for extradition from South Africa. The Queen's Bench Divisional Court guashed Mr Bennett's

committal: see R v Horseferry Road Magistrates Court. Exparte Bennett (No 2) (The Times April 1. 1994; [1994] I AII ER 289).

The crucial document was an internal CPS memorandum dated Pebruary 4, 1991 which read: "Detective Sergeant Davies in-forms me that the S. A. police are, within the next few days, putting Bennett on a plane to NZ which rather conveniently will stop over at Heathrow! Special Branch have agreed to inch him and the will be noten. taken to City Road for interview/charge I have asked DS Davies in keep you informed of developments in the week I am

the statement of claim did not plead the requisite ingredients of the not of misleasance in public office, but that even if it did they were emided to immunity from suit. They referred to Dawkins v Lord Rokeby (1873) LR 8 QB 2550 and Marrian v Vibart ([1963] 1 QB

They argued that the intinunity rule extended to cover anything said or done by a crown prosecutor in the course of the investigation or in the course of the inves prosecution of a criminal offence.

They relied on Rondel v Worsley iney renes on Kohaet V Worstey. [1969] I AC 1910, Saif Ali † Sydney Mitchell. [1980] AC 1981 and Elgazouli-Daf v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis [1995] QB 335, 3508-C]. The basis for the principle, they said, was public policy.

But public policy had many manifestations, his Lordship said. Neither the police nor the CPS was entitled to a blanket immunity. They were liable for malicious arrest and malicious prosecution and for assault if excessive force was used in the course of an arrest.

His Lordship could not therefore see why they should be immune public office if the requisite ingredients of the tort were pleaded and made out. They were anyone else. It was not in the public interest that they should not

His Lardship then considered the pleadings to see whether an adequate case had been pleaded. He considered Three Rivers District Council v Bank of England (No 3) (The Times April 22, 1990; [1996] 3 All ER 558) and the five essential requirements of the torn of misfeasance in public office there listed.

In the absence of a pleading of malice he held that the misfeasance cause of action was not maintainable against either defendant and an attempt to amend the pleadings to include a pleading of malice and particulars of the facts that would support it was now starte barred.

Mr Newman accepted that the arrest at Heathrow had been lawful within section 24(6) of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 and a claim that the arrest was effected as soon as the aeroplane entered British airspace was not fairly arguable. The false imprisonment claim failed.

imprisonment cann rated.

The negligence claim also failed.
It was barred by Hill v Chief Constable of West Yorkshire [1989] 1 AC, 63C-64A) and Elguzuouli-Daf v Commissioner of Police. Neither defendant could be specific in commissioner in the sued for incompetence in the exercise of his duties. As to abuse of the process of the

English courts, there was no such cause of action. Actions were frequently struck out as being an abuse of process but an action for consequential damages in the ab-sence of malice, which was not nleaded, did not be.

Accordingly, as the statement of claim as supplemented by the further and bener particulars disclosed no reasons action, it would be struck out.

Solicitors Solicitor Metropolitan Police; Treasury Solicitor;

Whether employment contract renewal is extension

Bhatt v Chelsea and Westand Another Before Mr Justice Kirkwood, Mr

N. D. Willis and Mr K. M. Young [Judgment September 9] Where an employment contract for a fixed term of one year or more which had expired had been renewed for a period of less than one year, and the employee sought to bring an action for unfair dismissal on expiry of the latter term, it was necessary to decide whether the renewal constituted an extension of the term under the existing contract or a re-engagecontract, to ascertain whether it fell

bunal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal from a London industrial tribunal that it had no jurisdiction to hear the applicant's complaint that he had been unfairly and wrongfully dismissed by his employers, Chelsea and Westminster Health Care Trust and Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School.

Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC, for the applicant; Mr Patrick Ellas, QC, for the employers. MR JUSTICE KIRKWOOD said that the applicant had been employed by the respondents in

series of extensions of the employ-ment for periods varying between two months and three years.

The terms of each contract were materially the same. Each contract contained a clause waiving the applicant's rights, inter alia, to claim unfair dismissal were his contract not renewed. In August 1995, the applicant's

three-year contract expired and was renewed for a period of three months. That contract was renewed in October 1995 for a further three months.

In January 1996 his contract expired and was not renewed. He complained to the industrial tri-

was for three months, section 197 did not apply. His Lordship reviewed the rele-vant authorities, none of which

was binding. It was appropriate to

under a new contract. . That was the distinction drawn by the majority of the Court of Appeal in *loannou*. Where the only change was an extension of the fixed term, that would almost inevitably he an extension under the same contract, with no dis case did not occur until the

> fixed term of one year more, the contract fell within section 197 of the Act. The extension period alone point of focus for the purpose of section 197(1). Accordingly, the applicant was not entitled to claim unfair dismissal and his appeal was dismissed.

extended term had expired with no

Solicitors: Booth & Blackwell;

Time limit for lodging appeal to be strictly observed adays, if not when the subsection

Regina v Long (Leonard) Before Lord Bingham of Comhill. Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Posts and Mr Justice Butterfield [Judgment October 7] ·

The rule set out in section 18(2) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 requiring notice of application for leave to appeal against conviction to be given within 28 days from the date of conviction was unambiguous: accordingly time began to run from that date, despite any delay between conviction and sentence Practitioners should take note of

the rule and act accordingly. The Court of Appeal so stated when dismissing an appeal by Leonard Long against his conviction of offences of rape and indecent assault. An application for leave to appeal against conviction had been made out of time and an extension of time had been Mr Robert Colover, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for Long, Miss Adele Williams for THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE

said that in accordance with what had apparently, become a prevail-ing practice, counsel had not given notice of application for leave to appeal within 28 days of conviction, believing that it was appropriate to delay making application until sentence had been passed.

tion 18(2) was unambiguous and required such notice to be given ithin 28 days of conviction. If as not infrequently happened.

there was a lapse of time between conviction and sentence, none the less time began to run on the date of conviction, not on the date of

It had been submitted that that statutory rule was the subject of practical difficulty since now-

was enacted in 1968, there was tion and sentence and if notice were required routinely within the 28 days following conviction there when sentence was passed, might not be nursued. - The court considered that there

was room for argument both for and against the present rule but declined to express any opinion modification of it was called for However, the court drew the

it stood, which was unambiguous and required notice to be given within the time limit. It was hoped practitioners would

take note of that fact and act was altered. Solicitors: Crown Prosecution

Service, Maidstone,

Strasbourg

Prejudice through mismanagement Royal Bank of Scotland v Bank of Scotland, and fixed for Craig Bank of Scotland, and fixed for September 24, 1997. Mr Kimbell, opposing the defendant's appeal against that refusal, one. reminded the court that there

Lord Justice Thorpe

Hudgment September 17 A litigant suffering prejudice as a wholly innocent victim of the mismanagement of the affairs of leading counsel instructed to represent him. resulting in that counsel becoming unavailable on the date fixed for the trial, was entitled to be granted an

The Court of Appeal so held granting an applicant for leave to appeal and allowing the appeal by the defendant, Harvey Craig, from the decision of Judge Lowden in Sunderland County Court on September 10 whereby he had refused to adjourn the trial of a mortgagee's possession action brought by the plaintiff, the Royal

LEGAL NOTICES

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defendant; Mr John Kimbell for

the bank. LORD JUSTICE EVANS said that the case was one of im-portance, the defendant's home being at risk. The defendant had been advised by Mr James H. Allen. QC, and in June 1997 his solicitor was advised by Mr Allen's clerk that Mr Allen would be available to represent the defendant at the trial on the date that had been fixed.

On August 20 the brief had been sent to Mr Allen's chambers. Nine days later the defendant's solicitor was told that Mr Allen would not be available after all. In those circumstances the application for the adjournment of the hearing was refused by the judge.

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discretion being interfered with unless the strict requirements laid down in the numerous authorities were met. The judge, he said, had decision refusing an adjournment

Clearly, however, some relevant matters were not referred to by the judge. He had not had the full history of the matter before him.

Further, he had not asked himself the correct question, namely whether any prejudice would be suffered by the defendant as a result of the counsel of his choice not being available.

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Thus the appellate court could, if so minded, come to a different decision from that reached by the

It appeared that the defendant was the wholly innocent victim of the mismanagement of Mr Allen's affairs. Doubtless he would be prejudiced by having now to instruct some other counsel. The case was, therefore, one where a difficult situation had arisen with out the fault of either party.

Although the court did not have return of counsel's brief was to be regarded as particularly unfortunate and a copy of the court's judgment was to be sent to the Bar uncil for further inquiries.

Lord Justice Thorpe gave a concurring judgment Solicitors: Snowball Worthy & Lowe, Sunderland; Collyer-Bristow for Davies Wallis Foyster,

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Radcliffes Crossman Block; Stephenson Harwood.

(Case No 118/1996/737/936)

and U. Lohmus

reasonable time.

Registrar H. Petzold

Before R. Bernhardt, President

Deputy Registra: P. J. Mahoney

Costs proceedings following litiga-

tion had to be determined within a

The European Court of Human Rights so held unanimously when

finding that there had been a violation of article 6.1 of the

European Convention on Human Rights, in that costs proceedings following litigation between the applicants and their neighbours had not been determined within a

Article 6.1 of the Convention

ovides: "In the determination of

Judgment September 23

Human Rights Law Report

granted.

Breach over delay in determining costs

and Judges L.-E. Pettiti, L. Foighel, A. N. Loizou, Sir John Freeland, A. B. Baka, L. Wildhaber, D. Gotchev

months caused by the fact that social security officials engaged in the assessment of the applicants' means had been under the mis-

contribution of £10,599 towards their neighbours' costs. They ap-pealed against that decision. There was then a delay between January 1993 and April 1994 when

within a reasonable time by [a] The applicants. Geoffrey and Margaret Robins, were British citizens. They lived in Crediton, Devon and in London. The background to the case was a dispute

erage, which resulted in judgment against Mr and Mrs Robins on May 1, 1991.

On May 31, the neighbours requested a hearing to determine costs. Hearings were held and on September 24, 1991, the judge adjourned the inquiry so that a number of factual points relating to the applicants' entitlement to legal aid could be cleared up. There was then a delay of nine:

taken impression that they had anolicants were ordered to make a

his civil rights and obligations ... everyone is entitled to a ... hearing

On November 13, 1992 the

the court authorities apparently took no action in relation to the case. In April 1994 the applicants were asked to submit documentary evidence. Owing to delays occa-sioned by difficulties which they encountered in obtaining notes and transcripts from the courts. they did not do so until March

1995, the Court of Appeal confirmed the first instr

on costs. The application to the European Commission of Human Rights, which was lodged on March 14, 1993, was declared partly admis-sible on January 19, 1996.

Having attempted unsucces fully to secure a friendly settle-ment, the Commission drew up a report on July 4, 1996 in which it blished the facts and expressed the opinion that article 6 was not applicable to the proceedings in estion and accordingly had not been violated (16 votes to 9).

In its judgment, the European Court of Human Rights held: I Alleged violation of article 6.1 eability of article 6.1 Article 6.1 of the Convention required that all stages of legal proceedings for the determination

of ... civil rights and obligations" had to be resolved within a The costs proceedings, even though separately decided, had to be seen as a continuation of the substantive litigation, to which

article 6.1 undoubtedly applied.

B Compliance with article 6.1

dispute on May 1, 1991 and ended with the Court of Appeal's dismissal of the applicants appeal against the decision on costs on July 19, 1995. The court noted that it took over

> straightforward dispute over costs. The state authorities could not be held responsible for all of the delays in the case. None the less, as the Department of Social Security had ex-plained, 10 months were wasted because of its mistaken belief that

the applicants had separated.

four years to resolve a relatively

There was a further 16-month period between January 1993 and April 1994 when it would seem that the court authorities were totally Basing itself on those two periods, in the context of the overall

length of the proceedings, the Court concluded that there had been an unreasonable delay in dealing with the applicants' case and therefore that article 6.1 had Application of article 50
The Court awarded £2,700 to the applicants in respect of legal costs and expenses but decided in the

stances that it was not

95. The relevant period began with Following a hearing on June 19, the judgment in the substantive appropriate to award any other Court martial was not impartial

Covne v United Kingdom (Case No 124/1996/743/942) Before R. Ryssdal, President and Judges F. Golcuklu, C. Russo, A. Spielmann, I. Foighel, R. Pekkanen, Sir John Freeland, M.

A. Lopes Rocha and L. Wildhaber Registrar H. Petzold Deputy Registrar P. J. Mahoney Judgment September 25 A court martial conducted before the Armed Forces Act 1996 came into force was not independent and impartial within the meaning of

The European Court of Human Rights so held unanimously in upholding the complaint of Paul Matthew Coyne against the UK. provides. In the determination of ... any criminal charge against him. everyone is entitled to a fair and public hearing ... by an independent and impartial tribunal established by law..." The applicant, Mr Coyne, was born in 1972 and lived in Bedford,

In August 1993, when he was

serving as a non-commissioned officer in the Royal Air Force.

article 6.1 of the European Conven-

tion on Human Rights.

Bruggen, Germany, the decision was taken to charge him with various offences of forgery and deception and to try him by court

martial.

The convening officer for the court martial was Air Officer.

Commanding No 2 Group, RAF.

Rheindsleit. Under the Air Force. Act 1955, which applied at the time, the convening officer had to perform various duties linked to the prosecution of the case such as deciding which charges should be brought and whether a plea to a lesser charge could be accepted. He was also responsible for appointing the members of the court martial. All the officers he appointed were subordinate to him and within his chain of command.

The court martial took place in January 1994. Mr. Coyne was found guilty of forgery and was sentenced to nine months imprisonment dismissal from the air force and reduction to the

ranks. He appealed against conviction and senence in the first place to the confirming offices and then to the Defence Council and the

Courts Martial Appeal Court but the convening officer. Since the without success. In April 1997 the Armed Forces Act 1996 came into force. That

amended the Air Force Act 1955, in

particular abolishing the role of he convening officer. The application to the European Commission of Human Rights lodged on November 23, 1994, was declared partly admissible on

November 28, 1995. Having attempted unsuccessfully to scoure a friendly settlement, the Commission drew up a report on June 25, 1996 in which it established the facts and expressed the unanimous opinion that there had been a violation of article 6.1.

In its judgment, the European Court of Human Rights held: I Alleged violation of article 6.1 In its judgment in the case of Findley v United Kingdom (The Times February 21, 1997), the Court concluded that a court. martial convened under the Army Act 1955 did not meet the requir ments of independence and impartiality set by article 6.1 in view in particular of the central part played in its organisation by

part played by the convening officer in Mr Coyne's court martial under the Air Force Act 1955 was similar and since there was no other reason to distinguish the two cases, the Court found a viglation of article 6.1 in Mr Coyne's cas

earning capacity which he had experienced since his conviction He also claimed costs and expenses of £20,000. The Court ruled that it could not speculate as to what the optome of Mr Coyne's trial might have been

In all the circumstances, it considered that the finding of violation was in itself su violation was in itself sufficienties satisfaction. It awarded 66.000 in

老

Il Application of article 50 Mr Coyne sought compensariti for the fact that he had been tried by a tribunal which did not meet the requirements of article 6.1 and for the reduction in income and

had the tribunal been organised in actordance with the Convention: it could not, therefore, awa compensation for the alleged loss

respect of costs and expenses.

Act were registered with the Register of Companies on 21 October 1997. Dated the 24th day of October 1997 STEPHENSON HARWOOD

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EDUCATION

'I didn't expect respect'

Susan Elkin on the independent headmistress

who spent a

week teaching 'the other side'

fered Gillian duCharme, Benenden School, the independent girls' boarding school near Cranbrook, Kent, the opportunity to spend a week aching in a London comprehensive, she was thrilled.

"I agreed immediately, Mrs duCharme says, adding sharply: Wouldn't you have done?" I'm not sure I would have the courage to be filmed, perhaps floundering, in an environment quite different from my normal habitat.

But Mrs duCharme is dismissive of my feeble misgivings. "The opportunity to see how a comprehensive works from within was irresistible. I've wanted to do something like that for years. I saw it as a marveilous chance to open up some real debate between the maintained and the indepen-

The BBC2 series Back to the Floor, produced by Adam Wishart, takes six captains of industry, including a general, a head of a travel company and the chief executive of a hospital trust, and puts them on the shopfloor of their profession.

How do they cope? How do they react to what they find at the grass roots? How do the people they work with relate to them when they are stripped of their seniority?

For Mrs duCharme it in-

volved spending most of the week as a supply teacher at Community School, an 11 to 16 mixed, 1,000-pupil school in East London. In 1996 23 per cent of its comprehensive intake pupils achieved 5 GCSEs at A*-C grades. "I was picked up on Vionday morning and driven o Forest Gate," she says. "I lidn't know where we were soing until we got there."

During the week she taught issembly for 211 year seven oupils and took 30 boys swimning. She found the classoom work difficult. Supply eachers have a hard task stablishing themselves effectvely. A camera crew in the oom cannot make it any asier. I didn't expect to ommand instant respect," she ays with disarming humility, and I didn't get it."

Some classes were restive and inevitably there was a grain amount of ne camera. "I tried very ard," she says, "and it was nortifying when, sometimes, didn't go well. I got pretty ustered at times, although I



know I would have cracked it quite quickly if I'd been there

exercise, what did she learn? One of the things which struck her forcibly, and which by implication does not apply at Benenden, but which any experienced supply teacher could have told her, is that children vary their behaviour according to the expectations of their regular teacher: "I was surprised that one class behaved badly in an English lesson, but were much better

when I took them for French." She also expresses puzzlement about the purpose of support teachers, having now encountered several. "In one lesson there was another adult in the room. No one mentioned his presence or told me why he was there. He didn't seem to be doing much."

Another support teacher admitted to her, presumably in ignorance of who she was or why she was there, that he had fled from the class. Was this a reasonable experiment? Should the chief with a £5 million turnover necessarily be able to quell 30 noisesome boys and girls in Forest Gate? "I've never taught in the maintained sector, says Mrs duCharme, a

Cambridge educated linguist. She taught for 19 years in the US, where she became head of Town School, Manhattan. Head of Benenden for . 12 years, she knows every one of her 453 girls and all their parents by name and she still French. Benenden's council --the equivalent of its governing body - last year renewed her contract for five years.

There were management lessons, too. Andy Richardson is head of Forest Gate. "Andy's style is much more formal than mine," she says. "I found myself wondering whether my pupils and staff might benefit from more formality." When Mr Richardson and

his deputy, Ben Benjamin. were invited to visit Benenden earlier this term they impressed the staff so much with their relaxed humour and competence that Alexander executive of a rural business Stiller, teacher of English at

had voungsters in an innercity school I would be glad to entrust them to these two." Mr Richardson told the

Benenden staff about his tight budget and answered questions openly about governors. extracurricular activities and staff recruitment.

But how can a 40-minute programme, edited from more than 23 hours of filming, be representative? As she quips to her staff before the visit by Mr Richardson and Mr Benjamin: "Perhaps when the film Somehow I doubt it.

comes out we'll all be sacked." Back to the Floor, 9.50pm

Estelle Morris on proposals in the Green Paper

Helping children with special needs

ackling problem be-haviour is top of the list of concerns in many schools. Teachers are working hard to find ways of keeping children with behavioural problems in mainstream schools. They know that, once excluded from the mainstream, youngsters find it difficult to re-enter. Often they move on to poor job prospects and even crime.

Because this is a key probem, early comment on our Green Paper on special educational needs (SEN), Excellence For All Children, has focused on the small proportion of children with SEN who exhibit behavioural problems.

The Green Paper sets out specific proposals: support for primary schools with children with behavioural difficulties, and imaginative new approaches — sometimes outside chool — for older youngsters.

Next month we begin to develop the work of special schools for children with behavioural difficulties. We have also announced £21 million from the Standards Fund to help to tackle exclusion and truancy problems, and will shortly be advising local education authorities on ways in which they can help to tackle behavioural problems.

But the Green Paper is

dealing with a larger group: the one in five children who at some stage in their school lives have special needs ranging from autism to blindness. physical disability to learning difficulties.

We want to identify problems when children are starting in education. Baseline assessment for five-year-olds and our focus on literacy and numeracy will be crucial, and will identify dyslexia and specific learning difficulties early on. Nineteen out of 20 children

with special educational needs are already in mainstream schools. But there are children in special schools who could also benefit, educationally and socially, from being in the mainstream. Their classmates, too, will benefit, provid-



Disabled children benefit from being at mainstream schools

ed the right support is there. This is not a dogmatic approach. We want what is right for the child, and we want parents and families to have information about the options from the start. More inclusion can help those with special needs to play a greater

part in society, but we also

recognise the fears of some

parents that increased inclu-sion will disrupt their chil-

dren's education. Increasing inclusion therefore be a continuing process: inspiration for it will come from those schools that demonstrate that including a wide range of children with special needs and improving academic standards go hand

in hand. There is no question of forcing difficult children on unwilling schools. Nor is there any question of removing parents' rights. We want to help parents, .too, by cutting through red tape. We want to ensure that they have the support they need at every stage. Statementing — producing the legal document detailing the help a school should give — can be a difficult process during which the needs of the child are not being met. Improved dialogue, and better targeting of resources so

they need, should take the pressure off this process. Many children will continue

that schools can provide child-

ren directly with the support

to need - and get - a

statement. But others will benefit from earlier support in the classroom. We want to achieve that, while giving parents greater confidence that the school will meet their child's needs.

Part of this approach will mean encouraging more par-ent-partnership schemes, such as those working well in Bradford and Somerset. These give parents clear information about the options, and involve them in taking decisions about their child's future. We hope that we can reduce the need for parents to go to tribunals, where appeals are running at 2,000 a year.

There is a continuing and vital role for special schools They will remain the most appropriate place for some children but not always for the whole of their school career. I also want to see special schools becoming specialist schools. centres of excellence with their facilities and teachers' expertise used to support children with special needs in mainstream schools.

In the new year we shall draw up an action programme to drive forward improvements during this Parliament. It will be phased to avoid placing too heavy a burden on schools. This is a priority area for the Government as more money becomes available.

The author is Junior Minister for School Standards with responsibility for special

When greater choice means less, not more

S chools have been quick to pick up the black arts of marketing. At a recent Isis (Independent Schools Information Service) exhibition at the NEC in Birmingham, prospective parents were assailed with almost identical presentations by the schools taking part. Tastefully arranged photographs of the dining ball, gymnasium, rugby pitch and netball courts of one educational establishment could have been easily swapped with those of the neighbouring stall without much difference being noted. The same reliable blue background of each display, subtly lit, provided nothing but an impression of the overall state of public school education today.

When the old grammar schools were laced with the choice of closing, turning comprehensive or becoming a private establishment, some opted for the third choice with the result that parents who traditionally would have sent their children to boarding school were happy to find a cheaper but good private day -chool within reach. This had a knockin effect throughout the private educaion system, with boarding schools scrambling for day pupils and singleex schools engaging in expensive projects in order

This cumulative movement rolled on intil it reached our best schools. We all pasped in horror as one time-honoured xclusively male establishment after mother joined the race to admit

Religion, too, was found to be very daptable. Roman Catholic schools not mly accepted but set out to woo nonatholic pupils and, most amazingly. ome of our very top and exclusive ublic schools, the foundations of the stablishment, heretofore predomi-

Damian Ettinger worries that in the

rush to appeal to all parents, schools may lose their character

WE'RE MORE THAN HAPPY TO ACCEPT NON-CATHOLICS, MR. ZARG)

nantly Church of England, have made special provision to admit Catholic pupils, pulling boys away from the traditional Catholic education offered by the likes of Ampleforth, Downside,

tonyhurst, etc. From the local private kindergarten to the brightest and best in the land, there has occurred a stewing and stirring that has produced a homogeneous glut of educational institutes that scrimmage for every unlikely candidate with the wherewithal to pay the fees.

ing for us all, but personally I have always found co-operation of superior mutual benefit.

Parents and pupils have suffered most from this headlong rush to ruin, as real choice has been removed from their plans for their children. The standards of tuition in these schools have not fallen in any sense. I am sure. Nor have the facilities they offer in any way deteriorated. Quite the opposite. It is simply that, in order to survive, they feel they must appeal to the broadest section of the public and could, in so doing, lose the distinctive qualities, built up over generations, for which they are famed.

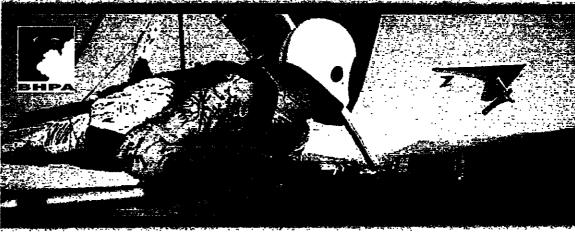
It may seem as if I am against coeducational schools. This is not so. Schools built for coeducation have served the needs well of those parents who wished their children to attend a mixed school and they too must now feel the pinch as more schools, tradi-tionally single sex turn coeducational.

As a housemaster at an all-boys Catholic boarding school offering traditional Catholic education, where non-Catholics have sometimes been admitted but never courted, I see no sense or benefit to good schools if they purposely cross the denominational borders in order to poach prospective pupils from each other. Change is good if it serves some purpose, and in some cases modernisation is needed. But are the wishes of parents and pupils served by simply removing the unique qualities that once adorned our schools and replacing them with the sales pitch, "We take girls, boys, C of E, Jews, Catholics, Muslims, Baptists, Mastercard, American Express and Visa"?

● The author is House Master of Plunkett House, the junior department of Downside

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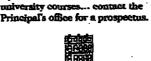
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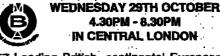


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Dalwa Angle-Japanese Foundation
Dalwa Foundation Japan House
13/14 Cornwell Terrace Loadon Nw1 40P Fax: 6171 486 2914

ton forms must be received by Thursday 11 Detember and comp



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Mr Mulligan foiled on return

By CHRIS McGrath

HE WILL not have felt the weight of history, which records that seven of the last ten Cheltenham Gold Cup winners have failed to win a single race the next season. But Mr Mulligan, having his first outing since his own. gruelling triumph in March, was confounded — at least in part - by the 13lb he conceded orchid South Western Pattern
Chase at Wincanton yester—

day. There were other factors,

under an aggressive ride from

promise after a soft palate lengths.

Obviously I'm sorry he didn't win, "Chance said. But lengths.

The sorry he didn't win, "Chance said. But lengths.

The sorry he didn't win, "Chance said. But lengths.

Obviously I'm sorry he didn't win, "Chance said. But lengths. to Gales Cavalier in the Desert undonbtedly, but none that discouraged Noel Chance in the optimism with which he is embarking on the road back to

4 ·

French.

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The same

-

Mark Str. 184

The same of the sa

South Maria

تعافرها

\$477

140.4

:2.75

and the same and

William Hill was likewise sanguine, leaving Mr Mulligan at 8-1 for a successful defence. Coral cut him to that

price from 10-1, but the ambi-guity of his performance was er out in front—though he did match some of Gales Cavareflected in the Tote recoiling to 12-1 from 7-1. If the thousands who flocked to the West sands who flocked to the West ed Mr Muligan, described as Country course were left similarly divided, they saw a splendid race to give real momentum to the early stages of the National Hunt campaign. Gales Cavalier — himself a

useful chaser, remeving lost promise after a soft palate operation during the summer Adrian Maguire. Mr Mulligan, as outlandish a spectacle as ever, could never impose gling and powerful, his flaxen mane and tail shimmering in the autumn sunshine, the chestnut's white face was nev-

lier's most flamboyant leaps. Chance said that he accept-

when Gales Cavalier did not allow him to steal a march leaving the back straight. Tony McCoy was evidently of like mind, sensibly gentle on the short run-in, and the partnership went down by two

formance over a track that is always on the turn, and a trip that is a bit too sharp. I knew his strange personality on the our fate from four or five out, race. At the same time gan-when he couldn't get away from the winner. For him to excel, he has got to be pinging them in front, putting them under pressure. But it has

been a great experience for him, and will have made a The ghost of many a Christ-mas past, Desert Orchid himman of him. Tony threw him at five or six fences, and he stood up well. Last year, he only threw him at the last in the King George VI Chase,

"He will now go straight to Kempton for that race again. He's not the type to run every fortnight, as he's well capable of doing something silly. He'll come on a lot for this. They'll have no chance of lying up with him over three miles

"He looks fit, but on that run he isn't," McCoy said. "It was a very good first effort but at no stage was I happy with him: He was run off his feet. I gave him one smack and he picked up for it, but he got tired. He'll take all the beating at Kempton on Boxing Day.

self, was paraded before the race named in his honour escorted by Lester Piggott. Now snow white, the 18-yearold gelding was evidently feeling friskier than his partner, though permitted a canter past the stands. It is one of the best measures of Desert Orchid's merit that he won five races the winter after his memorable Gold Cup success.

It is also a measure of the task now facing Mr Mulligan.

Klairon Davis made a winning reappearance in the Dunstown Wood Chase at Fairyhouse yesterday. Ridden for the first time by Richard Dunwoody, the 11-4 on favourite beat Fiftysevenchannels by It lengths.

Results, page 42



Gales Cavalier, left, jumps the last alongside Mr Mulligan at Wincanton yesterday

THUNDERER 2.10 JEFFREY ANOTHERRED (nap) 3.40 My Best Valentine 4.10 Gift Token 2.40 Nanton Point 4.40 Ricardo 3.10 Naughty Blue Timekeeper's top rating: 3.10 DUCK ROW. Our Newmarket Correspondent: 4:40 SHADIANN (nsp). GOING: GOOD TO SOFT DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.10 VODAFONE BRITISH / NORTHERN RACING SCHOOLS APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£3,230: 7f) (24 numbers) APPRENTICE HANDICAP (23,230: 77) (24 INDIGES)

10: (7) 069300 - SAMAJAN 551 (7) (bits 5 Hosel 7 Waters 8-16-0 S Corpo

10: (10) 060300 - JEFFEY MOTHERRED 20 (0.6.5) (Fighpron Dav) K McLatitle 3-8-12 D Swanpy

10: (23) 0002013 VICTORY TEAM 45 (0.7.6.) (I Laucht) 5 Backing 5-8-8 R Southolme (5)

10: (3) 14800 BACCKUS 5 (5) (M Revites) A New 19-8-8 R Southolme (5)

10: (4) 01- ARANDA 347 (5) (Man A Ventra) M Bail 3-9-7 R Southolme (5)

10: (20) 1245000 CE BEE DREAM 28 (0.7.6) (A M) S Woods 3-8-8 R Madest 19-8-8

10: (3) 150000 SUMMER OLIEBN 36 (0.6) (A M) S Woods 3-8-8 R Madest 19-8-8

10: (2) 0300640 ZELDA ZOUK 20 (0.7.5) (Man C Painting) 8 Mechan 5-9-6 R Hardin 19: (19) 04-70 (19) 05-70 (19) 07

Long handicap: Leigh Croiber 7-8, Leoch Party 7-2, Wild Heitle 7-0. SETTING: 9-2 Bold Tina, 7-1 Victory Team, 8-1 Zins, 10-1 Talla Well, Vani Vici, Scissor Ridge, Eta Lemest

Victory Tearn 3% 3 art to Safey Ana is 7: Unifield handless (good) with Zaida Zonk (11th better all) 74:1 6th. Bacchas 7:41 better all 7:41 for in thylic Quest in 1 or Kempton handless (good) to firm). Bold Than best Churchill's Stadow 11 in 7; Ungfield handless (good to firm). Bold Than best Churchill's Stadow 11 in 7; Ungfield handless (good) Safebury handless (good). Bacch Raicon in 1 in Ascol handless (Bib. in Jordes I in 7) Handless (good). Back Raicon 3:41 in 67 Windsor handless (good to firm). VENI VIDI VICI can gain reward for his consistency:

TRAINERS Wines Anns. % JOCKEYS Winners Rides % J Gosden 37 147 25.2 L Debort 52 248. 21.0 P Chapple-Hyam 38 174 21.8 J Red 57 318 17.9 S Vivous 3 14 21.4 -9 Ortifities 4 26 15.4 L Comral 13 61 21.3 R Hills 15 121 12.4 S bay Suppor 3 15 20.0 T Jodes 33 281 11.7 Mass G Kelleway 7 36 19.4 M-Hills 24 207 11.6	-	(OURS	SE S	PECIALISTS	1.	1.	:	•
	J Gosden P Chapple-Hyam. S Woods L Comani S bay Suppor			21.8 21.4 21.3	L Detroit J Raid D Griffiths R Hills T Quien	57 - 4 15	248 318 26 121 281	17.9 -15.4 12.4 11.7	

	Resecret number. Dans in bruckets. Sin-figure from F.— Rell. P.— pouled np. U.— parposed of the brucyfit dram. S.— sipped up. R.— nessel. D.— desparelief.). Horse is more. Days since had outling. J. H. jamps, F. H. flat. (B.— barbars. V.— with. H.— bood. F.— Eyesthajd. C.— pouse without, O.— disparelief. The disparent since had outling. J. H. jamps, F. H. flat. (B.— barbars. V.— with. H.— bood. F.— Eyesthajd. To the control of the contro
1	

2.40 VODAFONE GROUP HANDICAP (£6.232; 2m) (11 mmners) (26,232: 271) (17 TORRING'S)

201 (10, -505111 JASEUR 14 (V.D.B.S) (Shelife Micharemed) J Graden 4-10-0 ... L. Debad
202 (2) 118415 CAFTAM JACK 6 (B.CD.F.G) (C Sneth) M Pipe 7-9-10 ... Debad
203 (5) -007003 WHETCHAPPE, 14 (BF.C.B.S) (The General Leaf Huntington 9-9-3 ... T Carlon
204 (4) 0-42322 RDYAL CROWN 9 (BF) (Mrs. J Magned) P Chapple-Hyern 3-9-1 ... J Raid
205 (1) 5006238 E7THENY PAPK 6 (D.F.B.S) (Ar & Mrs. G Michilebroth) M Johnston 4-8-13 M Hills
206 (5) 64139 ATOURS 6231 (S) (Dh. So Papke Parlacation) D Bearrin 9-8-8 ... S Drowne
207 (6) -002002 PRESPERIO 25 (6) (Ars. G Scrutin) Mrs. A Parell 4-6-7 A Clark.
208 (1) 0012202 GALAPHO 14 (P) (Sendate Plass Lal) Mics. 6 Vetterary 4-8-7 ... R Mallon (5)
209 (7) 0230444 MANTON POINT 41 (D.F.S) (A Selronical) M Pipe 4-7-10 (end ... N Cardiste
213 (8) -002444 MICK OF TIME 17 (Mrs. D Abbott (S Abbott Backs)) J Daniop 3-7-10 P Dos (7)
Lease benefitzer: Thema Anna 7-8 Mrs. (6) 17 Time 7-8

Jaseur best Gelapino (6th better of) 1141 in 2m Ascul handicap (heavy). Capitain Jack 101 5th to Tumpole in 214m Newparted handicap (good) with Etterby Park (216 worse off) 161 10th. Whitechapel 2341 3nd to Desprin in 114m Ascul amateur handicap (heavy) Royal Crown neck 23d to Moon Colony in 114m Neithigham matein colt). Atours 161 test of 6 to Bitze Avey in course and distance handicap (good to firm). Prospero 1341 2nd to City Hall in 2mil Bath handicap (good to firm). Handion Point 33/1 4th to High luthigue in 2m Geodwood handicap (good). Theme Arena best City Hall 1341 is 2m Notificipum handicap (soff). LASELIR is improving fast and can complete a four-little

3.10 VODAFONE HORRIS HILL STAKES (Group III: 2-Y-O: £19,800: 71 64yd) (8 runners) (6) -0164002 BATSWING 13 (B.S) (R Williams) M Meade 8-9 (1) 1 DUCK ROW 35 (C.S) (Duke of Devocative) J Tollar 8-9

Duck Row beat Quet Assurance 1½1 in 1m stakes here (soft).
Imshishtrary beat litten ½1 in 71 Goodwood audion stakes (good).
La-feath beat Batswing (levels) 31 in 71 Assol stakes (newy).
La-feath beat Batswing (levels) 31 in 71 Assol stakes (newy).
Raughty Blue beat Brinning 51 in 71 Armouth maiden (firm) Series State \$1 in 71 Levester maiden (good to firm). Smart Squall beat Indian Missile 2%1 in 71 Assol missely (heavy). Victory Note 5%1 5th to Hayfi in 61 Newmarket group 1 stakes (good). DUCK ROW can confirm the good impression created on his debut here

☐ Carmine Lake, the Prix de l'Abbaye de Longchamp winner, could run in the Breeders' Cup Sprint at Hollywood Park on November 8, Peter Chapple-Hyam said yesterday. Sheikh Albadou, in 1991, is Britain's only winner of the Sprint.

3.40 GARDNER MERCHANT RATED HANDICAP (£8,681: 6f 8yd) (18 runners)

1998: THE PUZZIER 5-3-4 M HRIS (10-1) 9 HRIS 11 RM Bloshod 4'xi 5th to Dustring Blue in 5f Newmarket lected stakes (good) with Helib Mister (14th better of) 8'xi led. My Best Valentine heal Boths Joanne neck in 6i Newmarket listed stakes (good to soft) with Prends Ca (9th better of) 1'xi in 6i Harmiton stakes (good) The Prozer beat The Gay Fox shi hd in 5i Newmarket hardinap (good to soft) with Helio Mister (11th better of) 3'xi 13th and Bowden Rose (3th better of) 3'xi 13th and Bowden Rose (3th better of) 3'xi 15th Double Action 3'xi 12th I shi better of) 3'xi 13th and Bowden Rose (3th better of) 4'xi 15th Double Action 3'xi 2th I shi and Bowden Rose (3th better of) 4'xi 15th Double Action 3'xi 2th I show and Bowden Rose (3th better of) 4'xi 15th Double Action 3'xi 2th I show and Bowden Rose (3th better of) 4'xi 15th Double Action 3'xi 2th I show and Bowden Rose (3th better of) 4'xi 15th Double Cathon 3'xi 2th I show and Bowden Rose (3th better of) 4'xi 3'xi 3th Dancetteerighteers in 5th Accordance (11th Bowden Rose) 4'xi 3'xi 3th Bowden Rose (3th better of) 4'xi 3th Bowden Rose (

4.10 ROUND OAK HANDICAP (£6,320: 1m 2f) (21 runners) 4. I U ROUND OAK HANDICAP (£6.320: 1m 2f) (21 runners)

501 (2) 4200105 CONSPICUOUS 19 (D.F.6.S) (Mrs. J. Hopkict.) L. Cottent 7-10-0 ... A Daly (3)
502 (7) 1085820 IONG OF TURES 20 (D.6.S) (Mrs. E. Sheckmay M. Haynes 5-8-13. R. Cachanan
503 (12) -220301 SHAPP CONSUL. 34 (CD.F.S) (Mrs. D. Backmay) M. Candy 5-9-13. C. Photor
504 (8) 0-23125 HACHYAN 82 (BF.D.S) (M. H-Maldourn) D. Moriey 3-9-12. ... R. Hills.
505 (3) 7.588-00 ARCTIC THUNDER 20 (D.F.6.S) (Methyr Anctions) B. Paling 6-9-11. S. Drowne
506 (11) 6284054 STAR MANAGER 34 (C.B.S.) (M. Arbible) P. Cole 7-9-11. ... T. Carima
507 (10) 1-044 SOPY-CONADER 134 (6) (K. Mahulla) B. Hills. 3-9-9. ... L. Dettori
508 (9) 5231011 (EVANARRA 21 (D.F.6.) (B. Palmy B. Michron 3-9-8. ... A Claric
509 (21) -251500 PRAMER FALCON 65 (6) (Lauly Hardson) B. Hills 3-9-8. ... A Claric
510 (17) 3-523 NATURAL BERT 158 (BF) (Mrs. M. Su) R. Armstonog 3-9-6. ... A Claric
511 (13) 1000550 GFT TOKEN 20 (V.F.) (Mrs. E. Williams) P. Bross 7-9-2. ... J. F. Egan
513 (15) 0823000 (XAITHARY 34 (F.S.) (Mrs. E. Williams) P. Bross 7-9-2. ... J. F. Egan
514 (4) 08360210 BUBBLE WINGS 20 (D.F.G.) (Dr. F. Chro.) S. Woods 5-9-0 ... J. Rabid
515 (1) 2138250 OPENMER GRUPHATION 14 (C.D.) (P.B. S. Woods 5-9-0 ... J. Rabid
516 (6) 32244-0 20500 13 (Beachdourners) R. Philips 5-9-12 ... P. McCaba (3) 94
517 (14) 6121320 TOP JEM 2 (D.F.S.) (M. Reposs) M. Ryan 3-9-12 ... P. McCaba (3) 94
519 (16) 5021400 MUTADARRA 24 (D.F.E.) (B. Futton) W. Musson 4-8-9 ... D. Briggs
520 (20) 0150004 HAPPY 60 LUCKY 14 (F.S.) (Whitcombe Manor) R. O'Schlan 3-3-9. D. Briggs
521 (19) -600040 C.A.YPSO LADY 17 (6) (Mrs. Dr. Hamming D. Maldour) 3-8-4 ... Dens 6 Wall
522 (21) -500040 C.A.YPSO LADY 17 (6) (Mrs. Dr. Hamming D. Maldour) 3-8-4 ... Dens 6 Wall
522 (21) -500040 C.A.YPSO LADY 17 (6) (Mrs. Dr. Hamming D. Turnes, Misster Beveled, 12-1 others.

Conspicuous 91 5th to Mattell in 114m Lecester stakes (good to firm). Sharp Consul best Lomberto 21 in 114m Newbury handicap (good to firm) with Star Manager (5th better off) 3141 4th. Harchiyah 9141 5th to Sandrouor Chambers in 114m Newscalle handicap (good to firm). Sophomoré 91 4th Newscalle handicap (good to firm). Sophomoré 91 4th Newscalle handicap (good to firm). more 94 4th to Maylare in 1m 17 Goodwood stakes (good) Kewarra beat Silverant 31 in 14m Hermantet handicap (good to Brm). Praite Falcon 9161 9th to Far Ahead in 114m York handcap (good). Natural Eight 7941 3rd to River Pitol in 114m Bath natiden (good to soil). Gift Tokan 5141 9th to Pasternak in 1m11 Neumantet handicap (good to time) with Bubble Wings (110 worse off) 5141 10th. Master Beveled 4161 5th to Gonga in 114m Redcar handcap (good). KEWARRA continues in good heart and can complete a treble

BETTING: 8-1 Kewsza, 8-1 Szég Corsol, Sar Mánagor, 10-1 King D'Tunes, Master Beveled, 12-1 others. 1998: EDAN HEIGHTS 4-8-11 A Daty (9-1) S Dow 21 rae

4.40 ENBOURNE MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0: £3,938: 1m 2l) (16 numers)

Darzas 541 last lo Yabral El Sultan in 11/m Chester handicap (good to soft). Lawz 161 7th to Ghalib in 1m Newbury maden (good to firm) Ricardo 2f 2nd to Subray 161 at 11/m Rhydrock maden (good to firm) Ricardo 2f 2nd to Subray 161 at 11/m Haydrock maden (good to firm) Ricardo 2f 2nd to Sabathila in 11/m Haydrock maden (heavy) with Reggie Buck (same terms) 161 3rd Mary Cuti 211 bit to be True in 11/m Brighton malden tradicap (min Polska Princess 61/41 last of 4 to Flamongo Queen in 11/m Baden-Baden tisted stakes (good) Serpentiara 31/41 and to Sacho in 11/m Leicester maden (good to firm). Siles Whatlian 12/15th to Toragha's Prize in 1m Pontistract maden (good to firm).

POLSKA PRINCESS is taken to profit from a drop on class

	1N			_
J.	Įυ	EBF 1	THEALE MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-0: £4,276: 61 8yd) (24 run	ners)
1			AGANON 34 (Kingsdown Racing) M Ctermon 9-0 J F Egar	
2	(10)		BOMB ALASKA (Miss. B Searc) G Batting 9-0	s
3	(2)		BUZZING (Mrs P Jubert) R Haproon 9-8 Dame O'Net	
	Gi		CAERMARFON BAY (Six George Mermets) P Cole 9-0 T Opini	
5	(8)	0	DESERT VALENTINE 43 (Mrs. L. Hafforan) L. Cottres! 9-0 M. Fenton	1 -
6			FA-EQ (Godafphin) S bin Surox 9-0 L Detica	1 -
7	(18)		FIELDS OF CMACH (P Medion) Baiding 9-0	
	(13)	0	HIGHLAND LORD 123 (P Fetterstop-Godley) M Fetherston-Godley 9-0 F Norton	1 -
9	(12)	00	MANTELLO 34 (Super Sprinters) D Chappell 9-0 N Adams	5 70
10	(9)		MISTER RAMBO (Abboti Racing Ltd) 8 Maetra 9-0 M Tebbut	
11	(17)		PRINTORDIAL (D Chursten) S Dow 9-0	
12	(23)	00	PRINCE OXLEY 8 (B Pennick) G L Moore 9-0 Candy Morris	
13	(21)		RIOT (Lord Harrington) J Gosden 9-0	. –
14	(15)	3	ROI BROSBANE 23 (John Hodge) M Johnston 9-0 M Hills	- 🗔
15	n	0	SHIPLEY GLEN 8 (Nes L Burnet) M Prescott 9-0	, — <u> </u>
16	(6)		TAMBABAR (J Ruggles & Mrs & Ruggles) D Haydn Jones 9-0 S Drowns	. ~
17	(20)		ALARMONG MOTOWN (Lord Lloyd-Webber) Balding 8-9 D Sweeney (3) LUCY GLITTERS (P Melton) Balding 8-9 D Griffens (3)	,
18	(4)		LUCY GLITTERS (P Melion) I Balding 8-9 D Griffets (3)) –
19	(22)		MOON GORGE (Lady Howard de Walden) W Jervel 8-9 A MicGlore	: -
20	(11)	80	POSELATED 11 (E Loder) D Loder 8-9 A Clari	
	(24)		SHELA-B (D Hodges) P Makin 8-9 T Sprake	: -
22	(5)		SQUABBLE (T Holland-Marlin) R Johnson Houghton 8-9 J Rest	
23	(14)		UPLIFTING 29 (6 Alberton) L Costrell 8-9 R Cochrane	
24	(1)	0	WAFF'S FOLLY 34 (P Wafford) 6 Charles-Jones 8-9	r 76
BETTI	NG: 7-2	2 Fa-Eo. 1	5-1 Rol Brisbare, 6-1 Riol, 8-1 Caemarton Bay, Uplifung, 10-1 Alarming Motoer	Q 14-1
		1 other:		

1**996: ZA-MA 9-0 N**f HMs (9-2) & HQBs 23 ran

FORM FOCUS

Again 841 6th to Poly Blue in 61 course and distance in (good to firm) with Walf's Folly (same terms) 19 7th and Ma (same terms) 111 111 Buzzing Ballad Rock coll und of Ba Anound, Caernarion Bay, Royal Academy coll on ol Bay Stade Fa-Eq. Inchan Andre coll. brother to a winning juversite "RIOT, Fairy King coll nut of Lucia Tartuti. Roll Brisbarie 39:1 3rd to Luciyan Irailan in 6 Newcastle maxim (good to firm). Shiptey Glen 381 7th to Robin Goodhellow in 61 Catterick malden (solt). Alarming Motoven, Warming filty out of Sweet Soul Dream. Lucy Gibters. Cryptoclearance filty out of Way Of The World. Photelated 71 8th to Only in Dreams in 71 Lecester maden (solt). Uplifting neck 2nd to Young Josh in 61 Goodwood maiden (good to firm). FA-EQ is a tentative choice in a race built of unknown quantities

AFEC GOST THUNDERER 2.00 Kilcutlen. 2.30 Plan For Profit. 3.00 Silver Rhapsody. 3.30 Jawah. 4.00 Dutch Lad. 4.30 Foot Battalion. 5.00 Shalaal. Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 Muhandam. 4.00 Dutch Led.

Draw: 6F-7F, High Numbers Best 2.00 EBF WHEATLEY PARK MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-0: £4,244: 7f)*(12 runners)

2.30 SPROTBOROUGH CLAIMING STAKES

R Financia (3) 72 4-1 Plan For Profit, 5-1 Sally Belandoot, 5-1 Hard Y Gener, 8-1 Madamdaos, 10-1 Cheron's Dan. Coast House, 72-1 Raws, Dispel Diamond, Dises Rock, 16-1 others. 3.00 ERF FLAXTON MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES

(2-Y-0: £3,932: 1m md) (18) 15 (7) 0 TOFFOLIX 7 H Collegators 8-11 J Ordina - 17 (11) TRESSER HAPPY M Johnston 8-11 J Wester - 18 (17) 5 TUSELA ST 8 Halls 8-11 JD Scolin (3) 57 4-1 Punca, 9-2 Sales Rhagsady, 7-1 Sahan, 8-1 Mercless, Taskul, 10-1 Bascon, Stazz, 12-1 Caretal Turing, Min., 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRANSERS: R American, 11 minutes from 42 materia, 25.2%; 5 bin Somor, 8 from 31, 25.8%; H Oscil, 25 from 104, 24.0%; J Gosdan, 31 from 148, 20.3%; F Cole, 13 from 65, 20.3%; J Gosdan, 31 from 148, 20.3%; F Cole, 13 from 65, 20.3%; J Cole, 13 from 65, 10.9%; J from 66, 140.6%; J Forture, 16 from 154, 10.4%; J Caroff, 16 from 155, 10.5%; J Forture, 16 from 154, 10.4%; J Caroff, 16 from 155, 10.5%;

3.30 RACING CHANNEL RUSSBOROUGH HANDICAP (£4,435: 1m 6f 132yd) (18) (2) ASV SILENCE IN COURT 905 (D.F.G.S) A Balley 6-10-0

7-2 Forgle, 8-1 Locked, 16-1 Companye, Moon Colony, Jason, Shinng Dancar, 12-1 Tyconouss, Lyanotos, 14-1 others.

(2-Y-0: £3,984: 1m md) (14)

(3-Y-C: £4,468: 1m 2f 6Gyd) (177)

1 (17) 8004 200M UP 24 (V,5) M Hesten-Ells 9-7 ... 0 Center 89
2 (8) 5104 FANTASTIC FLAME 55 (0,6) P Matin 9-4 ... 1 Fortaine 84
3 (13) 22-0 HIGHT MERAGE 41 F.G. M Joreston 9-3 ... J Warner 79
4 (6) 0110 AMERICAN WHESPER 78 (BF,D,F,6) P Hauts 9-2 ... Conder (5) 68
5 (7) 511 SE DESTINET 29 (D,F) Mars 5 Habeton 9-2 ... T Sudde (7) 79
6 (7) 511 SE DESTINET 29 (D,F) Mars 5 Habeton 9-2 ... T Sudde (7) 79
8 (H) 0611 SECRET BALLOT 11 (D,F) Mars 5 Habeton 9-2 ... T Sudde (7) 67
8 (H) 0611 SECRET BALLOT 11 (D,S) K Mariot 8-19 (Sec) R Window (7) 67
9 (17) 0900 PAREDIUS 16 (E) R Hancon 8-8 ... K Falson 19 (2) 604 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... J Cornel 19 (2) 604 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... J Cornel 19 (2) 604 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... K Falson 19 (2) 604 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... K Falson 19 (2) 604 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... K Falson 19 (2) 604 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... K Falson 19 (2) 604 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... K Falson 19 (2) 604 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... K Falson 19 (2) 604 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... K Falson 19 (2) 604 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... K Falson 19 (2) 604 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... K Falson 19 (2) 604 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... K Falson 19 (2) 604 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Walespa 8-7 ... DOWN 19 (2) 605 - DANKA 382 P Wales

S-1 Korti, S-1 See Ye Male. King Dro. 10-1 Cardina, 12-1 Statasi, Columy Ritz, Metadosia, Menores Rinz, 14-1 others.

4.00 DANUM NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-0: £3-984£ 1m mol (14)

2 (34) \$383 PLOWEN O'CANNE 35 (5) M W Essisting 9-7 T Lucus 91

2 (44) \$380 WINSOME GEORGE 11 (6) C Paintural 9-2 N Kertocoly 33

3 (5) 423 WINSOME GEORGE 11 (6) C Paintural 9-2 N Kertocoly 37

4 (3) \$500 SUMPZ LA TRACE 10 (5) J J O'Nell 8-13 J Wesser 87

5 (10) 1052 CPPOSTMON LEADER 17 (5) 8 Hills 8-10 L K Fallon 106

6 (11) 6422 PRINCE SHELBEH 7 (68) P Insalan 9-7 C Lucyter (5) 93

7 (12) 6230 LIFT THE OFTER 41 R Harron 8-6 Paul Eddory 95

2 (2) 2100 PANAMAR MUSE 45 (7) T Ensisty 8-5 G DUSSIN 9 MS P Decided 8-1 L Canton 95

10 (4) 0355 LINEO OF LOWE 31 T Ensisty 7-13 L Mackey 107

11 (1) 6320 ROYAL GROUND 11 M Channon 7-13 A Mackey 107

12 (6) 0003 DUTCH LAD 7 M Templans 7-13 L D Widget 83

13 (7) 6054 CAPTRAN MEXELY 95 Sins J Remoden 7-10 R Remark (3) 32

14 (13) 5005 189751600012 48 Harron 1-10 P Pressny (3) 106 4.30 WESTWOODSIDE HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £4,468; 1m 2f 60yd) (17)

3-1 Secret Ballot, 6-1 Apprican Whisper, 7-1 Faminis Flores, lie Distinct, 8-1 Zoom Up, Zorba, 10-1 High Mispe, 12-1 others. 5.00 OCTOBER APPRENTICE HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £3,642: 71) (22) | CIS DATI: SHALAM 11 (D.S) M Compress 9-11 (Sin) S Carson (S) 2 (21) 310 CANTINA 27 (D.S) A Balley 9-7 R French 32 (10) 2003 CANTINA 27 (D.S) A Balley 9-7 R French 32 (10) 2003 CANTINA 27 (D.S) A Balley 9-3 P Fischly 5-8 (15) 2025 RALADERIE 9 F) M Compress 9-1 P P Marphy 7-5 (22) 2105 C-HARRY 18 (D.G.S) R Hollachned 9-0 Flynch 34 (15) 2009 SANDY A FORTUNE 4 (D.G.) D Michalls 9-1 A Kichale 51 (2009) CANTINA POLY IN 1409 8-12 M Henry 7-1 12 (A) SMAPL SET Y THEN COST (19,147) AT COMMON SET OF THE SET OF

Duck Row can confirm promise

BBC2

2.40: A visor has transformed Jaseur and he completed a treble at Ascot 14 days ago with ease. Whitechapel loves this track and will appreciate the cut in the ground. Theme Arena is extremely tough and showed admirable battling qualities when making all at Nottingham. The Martin Pipe-trained filly is at the right end of the handicap.

3.10: Before Duck Row's debut, James Toller said the Duke of Devonshire's colt

THUNDERER

TENENTAM.

2.20 Dubai Dolly. 2.50 its Unbelievable. 3.20 Peace

Lord. 3.50 Bures, 4.20 Misty Cay, 4.50 Ruth's Boy. 5.20 Missed Call.

2:20 STEVE HAYES 59TH RACECOURSE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,694: 2m) (10 numbers)

1 C-64 SYLVAN SABRE 20 (D.F.G) D Shaw 8-12-0 ____ A S Smith 2 134/ SCORCHED AIR 701 (BF,D,F,B) Mrs S Lampson 7-11-8

2 139/ SCHRICHED ARY (FI) (pr.)J.F.(s) Ass 5 Lampsas - (1-1-6)
A Thorston
3 1-00 HIGHLY REPUTABLE 16 (D.F. 6 Bravey 7-1-1-4 R Denvisoody
4 -305 HEVER GOLF DIAMOND 30 (G.F.S.) Ji Best 4-11-3 R Thornton (S)
5 -321 DUBAN DOLLY 39 (F) N Calburhan 4-11-0 ... A Magaint
6 04P4 RED LIGHT 26 (V.F.S.) J. Jestus 5-10-13 ... N Williamson
7 P40 Bis PA T1 (Big F) Ecclus 9-10-7 ... N Williamson
8 DUCY MULLINGAR COW 1787 8 Curby 9-10-7 ... L Aspell (S)
9 0233 COURAY PRINCE 00 (D.F.S.S.) P. J. Junes 9-10-2 ... S Machell
10 PAOD CHALKY DIAMOER 16 H Colleagradge 5-10-0 ... V Smith
5-1 Highly Reputable, 7-2 Dubal Dolly, 5-1 Medicinger Con. 5-1 Red Light, 7-1
Colomy Prince, 8-1 Sylvan Salam, Heurr Golf Damsond, 10-1 Big Pat, 14-1 others.

2.50 BRITISH DENKAYTT CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (E3,300: 3m 110yd) (5)

##DIFFERENT CHARGES (ASS.)

1 -615 REPROBLE PRINCE 27 (B.F.G.) A Streeter 9-12-8 L Aspell

2 3523 OH SO HANDY 17 (B.D.F.G.S) R Corts 9-11-12

2 7523 OH SO HANDY 17 (B.D.F.G.S) R Corts 9-11-12

3 Particular (S)

3 -324 CVMLL HENRY 13 (F.C) Singer-Each 8 -10-7 ... R Transferuse (S) 4 /6-3 ITS LINGUE EVANA E 15 (F) P Eaches 7-10-5 M Denne (S) 5 P24- JOKER JACK 209 (F.S) R Denn 12-10-6 T Describe

2-5 Peace Lord, 5-1 Settings The Greek, 7-1 Spring Stander, 14-1 Racking Telegraph, 25-1 Highland Flacon.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAMERS: J Licena, 3 witners from 7 rusners, 42.9%; Mrs D Habe, 6 from 24, 25.0%; 6 Predomen, 3 from 13, 23.1%; K Beiley, 5 from 26, 19.2%; 6 from 9, 3 from 16, 18.8%; J Cockeys, 6 from 9, 3 from 16, 18.8%; J Cockeys, 6 from 14 rides, 26.5%; A Magazin, 4 from 14, 26.6%; J F Talley, 3 from 12, 25.0%, Mr R Malazin, 4 from 23, 17.4%; N Williamson, 3 from 25, 11.5%.

2-1 Cysil Henry, 9-4 Ch So Handy, 5-2 Newhall Prince, 8-1 its Unbellevable, 12-1 John Jack.

3,20 wimpey homes novices chase

(£3,313: 2m 110yd) (5)



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

could be better than Teapot Row. Duck Row went some way to justifying that claim when outbattling Quiet Assurance here in the Haynes.

the progressive Smart Squall may prove a bigger danger after a smooth nursery success at Ascot.

3.50 MICHAEL SCOTNEY BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,347: 2m) (9)

4.20 WILLIAM YOUNGER EAST ANGLIA

4.50 WILLIAM YOUNGER EAST ANGLIA

(£3,992: 2m 5f 110yd) (5)

(£1.188: 2m) (6)

JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-O: £2,675: 2m) (7)

8-11 Mesty Cay, 9-2 Storr Secret, 8-1 Top Bilts, 70-1 Methodod, 12-1 Fortune Hudder, 14-1 Nayesam, 20-1 Blue Cheese

7-4 Saven Mead, 5-2 Ruths Boy, 9-2 Rippanour, 5-1 Manor Meso, B-1

4-5 Victor's Vase, 7-4 Lamedo, 18-1 Missed Cult, 14-1 Course On Elish, 33-1

Blinkered first time

DONCASTER: 2.30 Betzao, Muhandam 4.30 Absolute Liberty, FAKENHAM: 3.50 Betzol, Quiliwork, NEWBURY: 2.10 Proud Monk

5.20 WEATHERBYS STARS OF TOMORROW OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE

3 SILVER SECRET 15 M Heaton-Dis 10-12 B Powel
P9 PORTUNE HUNTER 13 J Norton 10-9 E Callaghan (5)
4 KAYESAM 15 L1 Hurrs 10-9 A S Sneith
P MELLWOOD 41 M Temptins 10-9 T Eley
20 TWO BALLS 38 A Spector 10-9 T Eley
22 MISTY CAY 15 May 14 Want 10-7 R Thornton (5)
BLUE CHEESE 21F J Jonana 10-4 N Williamson

3.40: Patsy Grimes invariably saves her best for this time of year. After a victory at Haydock four weeks ago, she

formance over an inadequate five furlongs at Ascot 13 days Stakes. That form was given a boost when the runner-up justified strong backing at Newmarket next time. Sure to ago. She will be suited by the return to six furlongs. Hello improve for his first run. Mister has the form to oblige. but seems to have lost the Duck Row is a worthy favourwinning habit. With the ite. Victory Note did not impress with his attitude before ground riding on the easy side the Middle Park Stakes and of good, conditions should suit Double Action. runaway winner of a York handicap on soft ground before finishing runner-up in the Ayr Gold Cup. With further improvement possible. Tim Easterby's run-

ner must go close.

Hanson and Clark Conditions returned an equally good per-

RICHARD EVANS

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: BUBBLE WINGS (4.10 Newbury)

Next best: Duck Row (3.10 Newbury)

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GARBER MENCHAN WITED STAKES 6 furlongs (Handicap), Newbury 3.40pm, Live on BBC TV. 5/1 Double Action 16/1 Astrac

8/1 My Best Valentine 16/1 Brave Edge 8/1 No Extras **8/1** The Puzzier

9/1 Hello Mister 10/1 Patsy Grimes

10/1 Prends Ca 14/1 Bold Effort

20/1 Carranita 33/1 Distinctive Dream 14/1 Daring Destiny 150/1 Lucayan Beach Each way One Quarter the odds a place 1, 2, 3, 4. Prices subject to fluctuation Available up to 3.25pm.Textersalis Rule 4 (c) may apply. Non runner - no bet.

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PRACES SUBJECT TO PLUCTUATION

Silk Cut a disappointing fourth after first leg of Whitbread race

Frustrated Smith keeps eye on prize

SAILING CORRESPONDENT IN CAPE TOWN

THIS was not how Lawrie Smith wanted to finish the first leg of a Whitbread Round The World Race that he has more chance of winning than any of the other three that he has sailed in. Fourth place for his purple and white Silk Cut was never part of his winning strategy. which called for steady seconds and thirds all the way to overall

honours next May.

Smith was disappointed after drifting across the finishing line at dawn here yesterday, almost two days after the winner. Paul Cayard in EF Language. The Silk Cut crew members who, on their day, are the most gung ho in the fleet, were subdued as they went through the

DISTANCE TO FURSIL				
First leg (Southernpton to C 03.24GMT yesterday, with	Cape Towns Positions (ex. miles to Cape Town):			
	ed 05.54,26GM7 Toes.			
2, Mark Cop (Monaco) 3, baserettes Kanamar (Nor)	01.20.11 Wednesday:			
4, 58k Cut (G8)	03.17.00 Thursday:			
5, Cheeste Racing (US)	. 1721mles			
6, Toshiba (US)	274.6;			
8, Swedish Match (See)	374.3:			
9, EF Education (See)	631.			
10, State (Supergy (Holl)	795.8.			

motions of spraying a little champagne around for the cameras. learly they were preoccupied with the feeling that fate had dealt them a less than fair hand on what Gordon Maguire, Smith's second in command, described as the most bizarre leg that he has ever experi-enced in his own long Whitbread career. There were no excuses. though, just a matter-of-fact explanation of what had gone on and a collective impatience to get on with the next stage, when they might do themselves justice.

Smith, who left Southampton a month ago feeling the pressure, appeared far more relaxed yesterday. He seemed confident that. despite this initial disappointment, he has a boat and a team that are capable of winning this race. Sometimes, when things are not going well. Smith has the habit of casting around for scapegoats and complaining, but this was not in evidence yesterday as he surveyed the past 31 days at sea.

"We're not at all unhappy with the way things are going," he said. "Obviously, fourth is not as good as the top three, but you can win the race with a fourth." He said that once the leading boats had got



A subdued Smith reflects on a disappointing first leg after arriving in Cape Town yesterday. Photograph: Mike Hewitt/Allsport

ahead - Silk Cut was only nine miles adrift of EF Language just north of the Cape Verde Islands they were always improving their position as they consistently sailed into the new breeze first. Unlike north-south legs in the past, there were no opportunities this time for the trailing boats to catch up. "I don't think it was a navigator's leg, it was more a question of if you were leading by a mile, this quickly became ten miles then 100 miles and so on," Smith said.

If Silk Cut had made mistakes it was in taking too many spares. which added unneccessary weight, and choosing what Maguire described as too "conservative" a sail wardrobe. "We covered all windspeeds and angles whereas, in hindsight, we could have dropped out all the heavy-weather gear and just gone with light stuff and be off. but that was a very high-risk

strategy," Maguire said In the event, Silk Cut sailed in light or medium breezes all the way, except for one 36-hour period when the windspeed picked up to 25 knots and the boat produced the record 24-hour distance for the leg of 414 miles, bolstering Smith and Maguire's confidence that they have the pace to handle the heavy conditions that they are likely to

encounter during the next leg to Fremantie. While impressed with Cayard's

ه حدامن رالامل

performance, they suggested that he had taken exactly the risk with his sail selection that they had shied away from and they are not convinced that he will be able to maintain his first-leg form throughout the race. Maguire still sees Grant Dalton, in Merit Cup, as the main threat, though he has not written off Chris Dickson, in

Toshiba, who is due in today.

It was noticeable that Silk Cut returned to the dock almost completely undamaged. There was one ripped spinnaker but nothing else.

This is in marked contrast to many of the other boats, including Merit. One consequence of this is that Smith should have more time to concentrate on sail selection than some of his rivals in the run-up to ☐ Robert Scheidt, of Brazil, has

the restart on November 8. claimed his third successive Laser world championship by winning with a race to spare at Algarrobo in Chile. Nik Burfoot, of New Zealand, was second with Ben Ainslie. of Great Britain, finishing third for the second successive year. Amslie's fellow Briton, Hugh Styles, was fifth in the 128-strong

Edwards forced to bow to wind of change

skipper of Royal and SunAlliance, the giant catamaran, made a decisio 6.45pm yesterday to pull out of her record-breaking attempt to sail around the British Isles

because of light winds: "I'm devastated," she said. "Particularly having spent the last two days splashing around in horrendous weather and the girls having worked so hard: To give up now is very difficult, but we always knew that the first two days would be

good days and that the forecast for the last two days was OK. It was the middle day. Wednesday, that looked variable — and so it was. Having covered 400 namical miles to the mark on the first day and a further 340 nantical miles on the second day, travelling at average speeds well above those of Steve Fossett's record-breaking boat, Lakota, we made only 120 nautical miles on day three. The winds were just too light and

I felt a sudden overwhelming sorrow for Tracey worked so hard and waited so long for the best conditions and now this. I also realised that I felt sorry for me, as well. In three days that I have been with them, I have been made to feel as if I am one of them. "Now, we just have to be positive, head for home and repair the damage to the boat before we set out for the Jules Verne Trophy, which is the big one," Tracey said.

Damage to the boat includes broken halyard shackles and sails, but Tracey added: "Because the conditions have been so awful, it's been a great learning curve for everyone. For some of the girls was their first time steering in heavy weather and they did

The writing was on the wall the previous night when I had woken up, not to the usual crashing of waves over the hull, but to a sound rarely heard at sea - that of near total silence. I lay motionless and the boat was motionless, but for a gentle drift that was barely perceptible. We had been





on the agony of failure

The Royal and SunAlliance and it's all female crew will now be heading for the southern hemisphere in pursuit of that most coveted prize of all, the Trophée Jules Verne for non-stor circumnavigation. For the boat itself, it's not an unfamiliar trip as. under the name ENZA and with Sir Robin Knox-Johnston and Sir Peter Blake at the helm, it held the trophy for three

Their record was broken only last May by Olivier de Kersauson, of France, and his crew of six on the trimaran, Sportelec. The speed record that Tracy and her crew will be attempting to break in December is 71 days 14 hours and



RUGBY UNION: THREE CLUBS ALIVE TO PITFALLS OF PROFESSIONALISM

Natal coach asked to help Wales prepare

By DAVID HANDS

WALES, who take up temporary tenure of Wembley this season while the new Arms Park stadium is being redeveloped, will invite Ian McIntosh to help to prepare the national squad for the two pre-Christmas internationals. McIntosh, the former South Africa coach. arrives next week for a monthlong visit during which he will also spend time with leading dub coaches.

John Bevan, the Welsh Rug-by Union's new director of coaching, hopes that the man who has taken Natal to a series of Currie Cup triumphs during the 1990s can also help to implement the fast-ball policy that is crucial to Wales's hopes of developing their attacking style. That style will receive the ultimate examination from New Zealand at Wembley on November 29.

There are hopes that the All Blacks will attract a crowd in excess of 50,000, even though England play South Africa at Twickenham, on the other side of London, the same day. Weish clubs are clearly not optimistic of disposing of their tickets since several have contacted London Welsh to ask if they require more.

"Playing in England is something we have to come to terms with." Kevin Bowring. the Wales coach, said yesterday after a tour of inspection at Wembley, where his players will also meet Scotland and France in the new year. "I hope the impartial observer will get behind the underdogs - if that is what we are

when we play the All Blacks." Wales hope that their 1999 internationals can be played in Cardiff, even though the stadium is not due for completion until the summer of that

Wales A will field four Pontypridd players when they meet New Zealand at Sardis

WALES A (v New Zealand, Portypodd, November 11)* M Back (Swarssa): G Evens (Járssin), N Boobyer (Llaneth, J Lewis (Portypodd), D James (Portypodd), B Hayward (Eibiw Vale), A Moore (Richmond: A Lewis (Cardin), G Jankins (Swarssa), Cardin (Swarssa), Cardin (Swarssa), C Stephers (Bridgerd), N Spillar (Portypodd), M Williams (Portypodd), C Wyelf (Llaneth, Rojaksmants: H Harries (Harequins), L Janvis (Cardin), N Symon (Portypodd), R McBride (Llaneth), C Objerned (Richmond), D Thomas (Swanssa)

Assault on the summit tempered by caution

A mbition and money are not confined to the Allied Dunbar Premiership. One of the defining games of the season in the wsons National League will be played just off the MS at the Sixways Ground tomorrow, when Worcester meet Landon Welsh in the hope of retaining the leadership of the first

Though they are by 14 years the older club. Worcester have a history of comparative anonymity, whereas London Welsh, 25 years ago, could claim to be one of the strongest sides in Europe. It is no coincidence that these clubs, together with Leeds in third place, are leading the push for

They are the ones with new money and, critically, the time to adjust to the demands of professionalism. Clubs below the Premiership do not have an ideally structured season but they have what their seniors crave, a degree of continuity which allows them to make haste slowly: clubs in the Premiership have been hives of feverish activity since professionalism was agreed because they have elite positions to protect.

Clubs such as Worcester seek to join them but they have the distinct advantage of being able to watch from a distance. We may arrive at the right moment when more realistic prices prevail," Cecil Duckworth, of Worcester, said, while Phil Lewis suggests that London Welsh have time to put playing and administrative structures in place which Premiership clubs have been forced to do on the run.

David Hands says the

watchword is realism

at Leeds, Worcester and Old Deer Park

"The escalation in the prices people pay for players does concern me," Duckworth, the millionaire businessman whose cash has projected Worcester into the national consciousness, said. "You have to attract large crowds and, at club level, apart from a few like Leicester or Gloucester or Bath, they are not there and nor is the culture.

"You don't change this in five minutes. You can build a crowd but it's not happening vet." That, argue the firstdivision owners, is because the public never know when their local team is going to play; in the Jewsons League, clubs have a strong run until De-cember, their league programme interrupted only by commitments in the cup, in which they may be drawn at



home anyway. Admittedly, at-tendances will be affected by the lure of internationals in November and December is a month substantially lost to the county championship. Moreover, the season somewhat

March onwards. 'Our systems should really be in place for the time we really arrive." Lewis, chief executive of London Welsh.

trickles away from mid-

"We have overheads but nothing like those of the big boys. We have taken a view that London Welsh is still primarily a members club

They, Worcester and Leeds can plan coherent development to match their anticipated playing success. "There is no point having an international squad when you are in national division one," Duckworth said. That has not stopped him signing Christian Barrea from Argentina, though the scrum half must

He has also brought in Les Cusworth, the former England assistant coach, as director of rugby, to handle the way forward at a ground where he hopes, in time, to establish a capacity of 10,000 with facili-

Duckworth: benefactor

and long may it continue."

delay joining Worcester because of a family illness.

ties to match.

"Ideally, we would like to be promoted at the end of this season and then look to minimise the period spent in the second division of the Premiership," Duckworth said, "but we note that Exeter and Fylde [promoted last season] seem to be struggling and we want to avoid that. But we

Davidson blow for Ireland

IRELAND will be without Jeremy Davidson for their pre-Christmas internationals, and possibly the five nations' championship (David Hands writes). The London Irish lock requires an operation to repair knee ligaments damaged against Gloucester on Sunday and could be missing for six months.

Davidson, 23, was one of the primary successes of the British Isles tour in South Africa and, with Keith Wood, Paul Wallace and Eric Miller. was expected to provide the nucleus of a successful lrish

forward display. The news is also a blow for his club, striving to stay among the elite of the Allied Dunbar Premiership first division.

On Sunday, they face Wasps, who will give Trevor Leota, the Western Samoa hooker, his first full game, but omit Simon Shaw, who has an ankle injury. Having lost their half

backs, Andy Gomarsall and Alex King, through injury, they will pair Martyn Wood with Guy Gregory and restore Rob Henderson at centre against his old club.

Martin Johnson, Davidson's captain and second-row partner in South Africa. de-Lions Raw, his book on the and John [Mitchell] want me to do it. I'll be honoured and thrilled." he said. "It it's someone else, I'll get behind them and get on with my job."

flected the England captaincy issue at the launch of The tour. "If Clive [Woodward]

Johnson, who led the Lions to a 2-1 series win and is captain of Leicester this season, is a leading contender for the role, along with Lawrence Dallaglio, captain of Wasps.

SHANGHAI: China National Gernes: Womer: 5,000m: 1, Jang Bo (China) 14min 28.09se: (world record): 2, Dong Yarmai (China) 14:29.82; 3, Liu Shixteng (China) 14:28.14.
BELGRADE: Road reca (Birm): 1, H Ramesia (SA) 17min 19sec; 2, L. Jasus (Por) 17:20; 3, P Tengat (Ken) 17:22; 4, J Pessara (CL) 17:23; 5, J Muindi (Ken) 17:29; 8, C Nyberg (Swe) 17:27. ADE LEAGUE: First divis

BASEBALL WORLD SERIES: Cleveland 10 Flonda 3 (best-of-seven series tled 2-2). BASKETBALL

EUROPEAN CUP: Group D: Albe Berlin 80 AEK Athens 79. BUDWESSER LEAGUE: Manchister Gartes 97 Waldord Royals 72; Theres Valley Tigers 130 Crystal Palace 92. BOXING

BUDAPEST: World amains champion-ships: Quarter-finels: 51(cc.) O Nerviez: (Ang. bt. G. Mocanu (Rom) 13-0, M. Martilla (Cuba) bt.V. Decreatyen (Arm) 15-2; I Razie-pov (Russ) st. C. Molerto (II) 9-6; B. Dzu-madiov (Kaz) w/o A Raimov (Lizh) sc. 57(cg. F. Hastly (Cuba) w/o A Arthur (Sood) scr. F. Hastle (Ger) bt. A. Kosainyk (Life) 11-6; S. Sanchut (Russ) bt. A. Gevongyen (Arm) clag. 57; I Kosaco (Hun) bt. J. Lutamov (Lizh) 17-1. 63.5(cg. T. Sansalada (Swe) bt. M. Cherchell, F. Gussalla (Russ) bt. M. Cherchell, F. Gussalla (Russ) bt. M. Cherchell, F. Gussalla (Russ) bt. M. Sanchelles; 13-5; D. Simton (Rom) bt. W. Matzel (Isn) 19-7. 71(cg. bt. G. Legnes) (Swychelles) 13-5; D. Simton (Rom) bt. W. Matzel (Isn) 19-7. 71(cg. bt. G. Legnes) bt. M. Kotal (Hun) 12-4; E. Ionsmov (Kaz) bt. A. Macgod Heiszi (Egypt) rsc. 40; A. Diavergel (Cuba) bt. A. Gogolev (Russ) 19-5.

ATHLETICS

CRICKET CARNS: Tour metch (second day of four).

New Zestanders 196; Queensland 482-5 (M.

Love 201 retred fruit, J.P. Maher 114).

Sydmay: Victoria 508-5 dec (L. Hurper 160, M. T. G. Boott 187): New South Wales 233-3 (S. R. Waugh: 113 not out, M. E. Waugh: 72).

Parth (first day of four): Wastern Australia 315-4 (A. C. Glachnst 169 not out, T. M. Moody 70 not out) y South Australia.

FOOTBALL EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Second round, first-leg: Lolomotiv Moscow (Russ) 2 Kocaelspor (Tur) 1.

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

kick-off 7.30 unless stated. Nationwide League

First division Reading v Nottingham Forest (7.45) Third division

FA CUP: Fourth qualifying round: Staines Town v Margate (7.45). DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Southern di-vision: Havant v Perchem FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Shenrock y SI Pavick's

RUGBY UNION SRU inter-district championship Scottish Borders v Glasgow (at Philiphaugh, Selicit, 7.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premiter distribut Leigh Miners v Saddiaworth (7.30).

OTHER SPORT

HOCKEY: Women's under-18 and under-16 regional tournaments (at Tilstey Park, Abingdon, moon). SNOCKER: Grand Prix (in Bournemouth). SPEEUWAY: Grand Fity, in Bournamouri, SPEEUWAY: Young Shield: Semi-finel, second leg: Edinburgh v Long Eaten (7:30) Individual: Champons' Chass (at Arena Esse, 8 0), Southern Track riders Open championship (at Oxford, 7.45). TENNIS: Maureen Connolly Trophy: Greet Britain v United States (in Menchester): Girobank Tour event (in Taunton).

FOR THE RECORD

by 1 Windsdorn 1.

NATION/WIDE LEAGUE: First division: Chariton Athletio 1 Bitminghism 1; Manchaster City 0 Stoles 1; Wickerhampton: Wanderers 2: Transmers Provess 1. Third division: Brighton 0 Lincoln 1; UEFA CUP: Second round, first teg: Replicit Wenna (Austria) 3 1860 Munich (Ger) 0 UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premiter division: Gensborough 2 Emily 7

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Langue: Cup: Preliminery round; first feg: St Leonards Stamborol 2 Enth and Belvedere 3.

FA UNERO: TROPHY: Pirst guellying round replay: Whitely 3 Neutrafield 3 (Set: Whitely win 4-3 on pens).

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: powich 2 Portsmouth 2; Millwall 1 Crystal Palace 5; Oxford United 1 West Ham 1; Totambern 1 Queen Pade Rengars 0; Windsdord 0 Norwich 1; Southempton 5 Watford 1

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: First division: Coven

Pronting League First division: Coven-by 2 Middlestrough 3; Lejosster 4 Bolton 2; Prit Vals 2 Notis Courty Q; West Bromwich 0 Sunderland 2. Third division: Scunthospe 1 Hull 2 League Cup: Group wor. Leeds 2 Sheffield United 2. Group four: Bury 2 Chesterfield 0. Group atc. Botherham 1 Scarborough 0. INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Invita-tion Cup: Lye 5 Ettingshall 3. COMPLETS ARESIC HELLENIC LEAGUE Parmier division: Endiseigh 2 Febriard 0; Kirkbury 1 Abingdon 3: North Leigh 0 Carteston 0; Shortwood 0 Amondsbury 3. ENDSLEIGH BYSURANCE MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Hendraten Timbers 1 David Lloyd AFC 2 TELISCAN MISSES V. LEAGUES. Base 400.

2
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE First divi-sion: Brodenhurst 0 Bernerton Health Herl
2, Downton 1 AFC Newbury 2.
WINDEN'S SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS
LEAGUE O'Brien Butchent premier divi-

MENERVIA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE O'Brien Butchea premier dul-sion Cup: Buckingham Athetic 2 Milhon Keynes 1: Bedicad 0 St Margareticury 1; Todoington 2 Cockostess 1 NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Premier division: Brigg 0 Hucknes 1; Hallam 2 Ossett Town 1. SCREWFRY, DIRECT LEAGUE Premier divisions; Taunton 3 Bernstaple 1. Post-poned: Brigoot v Bridgweiter. UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEA-GUE Premier division: Spaicing 2 S and L. OHLENGH! UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE PRINCE CHAIRES AND L. CORDY 2. Yardey 1. Starnford 7. UNIVERS LEAGUE: First christon: Eastbourne Town 1. Mile Oak. 1; Chichester 2. Selsey 2. PRESS & JOURNAL Highland LEAGUE: Buckle Treate 0 Leasternouth 1; Eign 1. Potestmed 3. Fraserburgh 2. Cove 1; Keuth 1. Descripting 1.

LAS VEGAS: Les Vegas Invitationat: Leading first-round scores (US unless stated): 93: B Glasson, J Adams. 64: 9 Fabral, K Gibson, B Andrade. 65: J Sindater. S Louery, T Tolles, J Green, B Mayfair, D Waldorf, K Triplett. Other scores: 67: B Hughis (Aus), G Walfe (NZ). 68: T Woods 70: G Hjenstedt (Swe). 74: A Lyle (GB). LA MORALEIA: Oth Pro-Am: First-round scores (GB and in unless stated): No 1 colume: 65: F Floce (Sp.), J Riverto (Sp.), 98: P McGring. 67: A Binghi (t), J Lomas, P Linhart (Sp.), M Campbiel (NZ), M-A Jiménes: Sp.), G Clark, 68: M Pinero (Sp.), M Porioli (t), 68: G Emerson, P Siciand (Swe), D Giftord, P Baler, D Caoper. No 2 course: 64: R Bosstal, 65: M Moutend, 65: S Struwer (Ge); D Carter, J Spence, R Russell, 67: R Burts, D Hospital (Sp.), J Pinero (Sp.)

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE Buffalo 4 Calgary 1 Carolina 4 St Louis 3; Montreal 3 Florida 0 Carloago 1 New York Fangers 0, Oleswa 6 Toronao 2: Colonado 4 Washington 3 Depot 4 Ansthelm 1, Plasburgh 5 San Jose 2.

REAL TENNIS

RUGBY UNION

BOURNEMOUTH INTERNATIONAL CEN-TRE: Grand Pric Fourth round: J Read (Eng) in A Drago (Mella) 5-3. Quarter-firet; M Stevens (Wales) bt J Parrott (Eng) 5-4.

SPEEDWAY

toone smell: semi-mai, and eg: Long Heaton 55 Edinburgh 35' CRAMEN SHIELD: Semi-final, first leg: King's Lynn 53 Eastbourne 36 POOLE: 50th Sesson Blue Ribend: 1 Boyce (Poole); 2. J Screen (Bradford); 3 Lernon (Poole); 4. M Cox (Poole).

KUWAIT: POW championship: Ouarter-finals: Semi-linals: P Nacol (Scot) br Janeter Khan (Pak) 15-12, 15-10, 11-15, 8-15, 16-8, Répes (Aus) but J Power (Can) 13-15, 15-13, 15-7, 8-15, 15-13. is, 15-13, 15-15, 15-13.

MELBOURNE: Women's Australia Open: First round: S. Faz/Gerald (Aus) bt N Granger (SA) 9-3, 9-3, 9-10, 10-8; C Owens (Aus) bt N Tippett (Aus) 9-4, 9-1, 9-0; L twing (Aus) bt J Transfield (GB) 9-3, 9-2, 2-3, 9-5, P Bearins (NZ) bt F Geoves (GB) 9-3, 9-5, 9-2; C Jackman (GB) bt K Major (Aus) 9-0, 9-0, 9-2; L Joyce (NZ) bt E Major (Aus) 9-0, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0.

TENNIS

STUTTGART: Men's tournement: Second round: N Keder (Ger) bt G Rusedsiu (GB) 5-7, 6-2, 6-4. Third round: M Ribs (Chrie) bt Y Katlerillow (Ruse) 7-6, 6-3; R kraßcek (Holi) bt P Sampres: (US) 6-4, 6-4; P Retter (Aus) bt D Princeil (Ger) 3-6, 6-2, 6-1, J Bjorkman (Swei bz T Herman (GB) 6-2, 3-6, 6-3; P Korde (Cz) bt C Polane (Fr) 6-3 ret. MEDICO CITY: Men's tournament: First round: A Hernandez (Arg) to M Coordo (Arg) 6-1, 6-1 Second round: N Lapenty (Ee) to Bianco (Sp) 6-3, 6-0, F Meligeni (Re) to R Deligado (Par) 6-3, 7-5; E Alverez (Sp) to M Crace (Ger) 6-3, 6-3; L Amold (Arg) to G Elis (Arg) 6-3, 6-3; L Hernera (Mex) bt K Alumi (Mor) 6-7, 6-1, 6-2

Ausm (Mor) 6-7, 6-1, 6-2

QUEDEC CITY: Women's burmament:
First roamd: N Tauzist (Fri bt C Cristes
(Rom) 6-1, 6-7, 6-3. Second round: B
Schulz-McCardry (Hol) bt S Jeyassetan
(Car) 3-8, 7-5, 6-0; C Fiziam (US) bt P HySoulais (Car) 6-3, 6-4; J Watansbe (US) bt
A Fizzier (US) 6-3, 2-6, 6-4; C Moranu (US)
bt F Lublan (f) 6-3, 6-7, 6-4.

MANCL-ESTEPS Memorate Constitution MANCHESTER: Manusient Connosity Tro-phy: Great British under-21 v United States under-21: A Warnengtr (GG) lost to M Cartiste White (US) 6-3, 5-7, 4-6, 6-3 (GB) bt W Latho (US) 6-1, 4-6, 6-3

POOLS DIVIDENDS

RACING RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Brighton

Coing: good to firm
2.10 (2) 209/d) 1, Signatory (Dane O'Nell,
13-2; 2, Severambin (2-1 h-lav); 3, Abselon's Lad (2-1 h-lav); 12, an. 5, 154,
Harmon, Tota: 15-50, 21-50, 21-59, 51-10.
DF: 05.60 Trio: 224 40, CSF: 217.52 2-40 (67 209yd) 1, Bolantia IV, Sprake, 33-11; 2, Rada: (5-1 p-fax); 3, Montano (6-1); 4, bydan (6-1), Laurer's Lad 5-1 p-fax 18 an. 16, jul. 89 paging. Tota: 259.40; 513 70, 22.20, 22.10, 21.80 DF: 2114.30. Thio: E496 10. CSF 2182.42 Theast 21,086.85

2.1,086,05 3.10 (7/2) 4,ch 1, Angestrom (J. Peid, 20-1); 2. Hadish (4-9 key); 3, High Tenelon (3-1); 9 ren. 4, 29; M. Struke, Tota; 216,30; 22,60; 51.10, 51.20, 07: 57,00 Teor 52,40, CSF, 226,52

226.82
3.40 (im 1/200yd) 1, Cebcharge Silve (T Scraire, 13-2); 2, Jubiles Scholar (16-1); 3, Without Friends (8-1); 4, Ployant (12-1), Dances With Horyes 8-1 ser, 20 ran. 11; Nil T. Naughten, Tote: 28.50; 22.90, 28.40, 23.50, 25.60, DF: 2331.70; Tito: 21.649.00 (part won, Poal of 225.48, estriad lorward to 3.40 Newbury today); CSF: 21.54. Tricest 2829.25. No bid.

A.10 (7) 214yd) 1, Secret Spring (D Streenis), 11-6 law, Thunderer's nept; 2, Undercover Agent (9-2): 3, Sword Am (15-2): 9 am Hd, sh hd. P Hedger, Tote: 22.40; 51.50, 52.00, 53.70, DF 53.90, Tricx 537.10. CSF: 53.02 25. Tu CS-19aut.
4.40 (im 31 19aut) 1; BeTrue (R Bristand,
4.1 text; 2. Random Kindness (S-1); 3.
Opera Buff (S-1); 8, est. NR: Starbedsaid,
154. 1 NL G L Moore: Totts: £4.00; £1.60,
£2.60, £1.80, DP. \$19.40, Tito: £23.90
CSF: £26.41, Tricest: £110.16 Jackpot: not won joined of \$170,748.36 carried forward to Manhuny today).

Sacepot £30.80 · Quidpot £12.00

Ludlow Going: good to firm (firm in places) 2.20 (2m hdie) 1. Kingdom Emperor (R Johnson, 7-1): 2. Pranie Minstrel (7-4 lar): 3. Benyllum (11-4. 6 ran. 1/6); 6l. W Clay. Tota: 58.00; 52.40, 51.30. DF; 57.60. CSF-2.50 (2m 4t cm) 1, Irich Empetor (Mr A Wirdle, 10-1); 2, Mozemo (2-1 fev), 3, Ferneick (10-1); 9 nm, 81, 71 A Carroll, Tole; 570.00; 22.90, 61.30, 62.20, DF; 617.10, Trics: 529.90, CSF: 229.64, Tricsst: 6195.50

2.320 (2m hole) 1, Squitre's Occasion (R Johnson, 11-4); 2, Percy Brainwarie (2-1); 3, Shewcod Boy (6-1). Robert's Toy (4th) 15-B law. 4 ren. (2), 141. R Curtis. Tota: 23.70. DF: £2.30. CSF: £7.86. 3.50 (2m° ch) 1, Weh Dominion (R. Johnson, 11-2); 2 Days Of Thunder (14-1); 3, Rupples (9-2), Runto Gent 3-1 (av. 9-ran. 9, 92. P. Bowen, Toler 55.40; 21.50, 62.30; 51.30. DF: £38.30. Tno: £58.50, CSF: £57.52. Thoset: £342.41. Bought in £0000ms.

4.20 (2m St 110.d hole) 1, Hillswick (J Culloty, 3-1 tay); 2, Don't Tell Tom (p-1); 3, Betser Cullours (7-1) 10 ran %1, 2, J King, Tole: \$2.70; 1150, 1280, 5 to 0 Dp. £19.20 Trio; \$30.90, CSP: £28.93, Tricast £164.31; 4.50 (2m 4f ch) 1, Northern Starlight (C Maucle, 4-7 faul; 2, Manwilene (25-1); 3, Crockmannthi (50-1); 6 ren. 4f, diet. M Pipe. Tota: £1.50; £1.70, £5.10. DF: £14.30, CSF: £12.34.

5.20 (2m flet race) 1. Dismond Hell (8 McCarn. 2-5 tea); 2. The Keny Ladgend (3-1); 3. Autum Blunder (9-1). 4 tran. M. 3. K. Burke. Tota: 21.30. DF: 21.10. CSF: 21.96. Placemont See 50

Wincanton Going: good (good to firm in places)

2.05 (2m Indie) 1, Balladur (R Farrant, 5-2); 2, Lonicera (13-8 fav; 3, Portock Castle (50-1), 10 ran, 91, 61, Mrs J Pamer, 10ta; 12.30; 11.50, 11.30, 18.40 DF; 13.80, Trio; 127, 80, CSF; 26.54. 2.30 (2m hole) 1, Prince Kinstey (C User-ellyn, 11-2); 2, Royal Action (11-8 lav); 3, Scottish Bambil (7-2), 10 ran 5, 71 J Old Tote: 55.00; 52.10, 51.50, 51.50, Di-57.00; Tifer 98.00, CSF: \$13.21. 3.00 (3m 1/ 110yd ch) 1, Manasonus (A Thomson, 2-1); 2, Galatason Jana (7-4 say); 3, Regime Boy (25-1); 5 ran. NR: Forest Music 13, 3% R After Tote 52.90; 57.70, 57.20, DF: 52.70, CSP: 55.39.

3.30 (2m 6t hole) 1, Poto Ridge (J. A. McCarthy, 20-1); 2, Southernhay Boy (14-1); 3, Royal Barge (20-1). Optimism-Reigns (4th) 4-5 fav. 14 ran. Bl. 41 O Shawood. Tote: 229.50: 25.30. 62 20. 65.30. DF: £361.20. Tho: £500.60 (part won, Pool of \$225.65 carried forward to 3.40 Newbury today). CSF £246.48 4.00 (2m st ch) 1, Gales Cavaller (f Maguire, 7-4); 2, Mr Mulligan (5-6 tax); 3, Glennot (12-1), 5 ran, 21, 301, D Gendolfd 70ts: 22-90; £1.50, £1.40, DF 12.00 CSF, 52.45.

4.90 (3m 1(110yd ch) 1, Mutual Agraement (7 J Murphy, 100-30); 2, Hishead (11-4 tav); 3, Trust Osed (8-1) 6 ran, 116, 9, P. Nichols, Toer £4.50; 21.90 £1.90, DF-£8.80, CSF £11.54 5.00 (2m hdie) 1. Beacon Fight (C Lievellyn, 7-2): 2. Mrs Em (8-4 fay): 3. Inden Jockey (13-8). 4 ran. Hd. 141, 8 Da Hean Tote: \$5.50. OF: \$5.90. CSF: \$2.62 Quadpot: £300.20

BASEBALL: INDIANS DISCOVER WRIGHT STUFF TO SINK AILING MARLINS AND LEVEL WORLD SERIES

Frozen Cleveland is surfer's paradise

FROM KEITH BLACKMORE IN CLEVELAND

A BEACH bum from California proved to be the coolest customer in the coldest game in World Series history played here on Wednesday night. As the temperature plummeted to 38 degrees and snow flurries swirled around in the Jacobs Field floodlights, Jaret Wright pitched the Cleveland Indians to a 10-3 victory over the Florida Marlins in game four, levelling the best-of-seven series at 2-2

Wright's idea of a good time is to get up before dawn and go surfing with his friends in the Pacific something that must have seemed a million miles away when he took to the mound as the youngest starting pitcher in a World Series game for more than a decade. Like his opposite number, Tony Saunders, he is in his first season in the Major Leagues: unlike Saunders, he held his nerve on Wednesday. The writing was on the wall after the first inning. By then,



Wright was riding the wave of excitement and noise generated by his home crowd. Saunders, on the other hand, was thrashing in the water, already three runs down. He had given up a hit to the second batter, Omar Vizquel, and then a home run to Manny Ramirez, scoring them both. He then gave up a single to Matt Williams and a double Sandy Alomar, scoring

He thrashed his way through the second inning but in the third, Cleveland, like-a pack of sharks, tore him to pieces. Ramirez walked, then advanced to second as Saunders threw poorly to first base. There was blood in the water and panic spread. Edgar Renteria, the short stop, took a routine groundball from Justice and hurled it past the poor first baseman again, allowing Ramirez to score. Saunders walked another batter, gave up another hit and a



Big break: a shattered bat fails to prevent Alomar hitting a single as the Indians take full command against the struggling Marlins

Thome to load the bases. That was it for Saunders - and, as it turned out, for the Marlins,

Antonio Alfonseca, the relief pitcher, allowed only one of the runners to score, a noble effort, but the Marlins trailed

Wright, meanwhile, was cruising, or whatever it is surfers do when the going is good. He gave up a single run in the fourth but did not make a serious mistake until the sixth, when Moises Alou hammered a pitch over the leftfield wall, scoring two runs. After that, it was back to the safety and warmth of the dugout, leaving another rookle, Brian Anderson, to finish the job. Up in the stands, Clyde

Wright, Jaret's father, looked down proudly. Clyde had a a Major League pitcher him-self, starting 100 games mostly for the California Angels and once pitching a no-hitter. Genes seem to count in baseball: two other players on the field, Alou and the Indians' catcher, Alomar, were sons of former players.

The Marlins went through the motions of fighting back, but it was too cold to repeat the trick that they had performed

on Tuesday and a two-run homer by Williams in the eighth finished them off. Many of their players wore balaclavas, a concession to the weather forbidden to the Indians by their manager, Mike Hargrove. An otherwise apparently reasonable man, Hargrove will not countenance any talk of the weather being an influence on the

GAME FOUR DETAILS

It is clearly an untenable position. Baseball, like cricket, is essentially a game of throw. hit and catch, designed to be played in the warmth of summer, And baseball, unlike cricket, ruthlessly records errors. In the first two games in balmy Florida, only one error was committed. In the first two games in freezing Cleveland, there were eight.

There is a suspicion that the general willingness among players and officials to deny the effects of the cold is part of a greater tendency to conceal or overlook the growing problems in Major League baseball. The sport, or more accurately, industry, has made a modest recovery since the players' strike of 1994, but this series has done nothing to

continue the progression.

late in the year these days because of the revenue-producing expansion of the leagues and play-offs. The later in the year they play, the greater the influence of the weather. The television ratings so far have been poor, partly because outside of Ohio and Florida these are not big teams - more like Coventry City and Southampton than Manchester United and Arsenal - and partly because

games undramatic. To satisfy television, the games all start late: 8.20pm in the east for all three weekday Cleveland games. In termtime, with games sometimes lasting more than four hours, that means few children are able to watch them. Something needs to be done, but so

play has been poor and the

Writers name Farrell player of the year

ERUGBY LEAGUE: Andy Farrell, the Great Britain captain, has won the Rugby League Writers' Association player-of-the-year award after an outstanding season for Wigan Warriors, whom he led to the Premiership title (Christopher Irvine writes). The players' player award went to James Lowes, of Bradford Bulls, who is set to take over as hooker for Britain in the first British Gas international against Australia at Wembley tomorrow week, unless Keiron Cunningham recovers

from a hernia operation. Tommy Martyn, the St Helens stand-off half, who is recovering from a second knee reconstruction in 12 months, has asked for a transfer. Danny Arnold, an ever-present in the side this season, is also considering his future.

Nicholas aims to be No 1

E GOLP: Alison Nicholas this weekend has a rare opportunity to become the first player to win the US Open and the European order of merit in the same season when the women's Tour winds up with the 54-hole Air France Madam Open at the New Golf de Deauville course in France. Nicholas, who became only the second Briton to win the US Open in Oregon in July, needs to win or take second place ahead of Marie-Laure de Lorenzi, of France. Helen Alfredsson, of Sweden, the leader, is not playing this weekend. Nicholas has won £88,499 on the European

Hamed, Eubank warned

BOXING: Naseem Hamed and Chris Eubank will be reprimanded by the British Boxing Board of Control for their fracas at Heathrow airport. John Morris, the secretary. does not envisage a full-scale inquiry into the incident but said: "It wasn't at a boxing-orientated event or a press conference. It's one of these personal disputes which obviously blew up. My view is that we shall have to deal with the matter behind the scenes and certainly issue some very tough warnings."

Courtney joins Steelers

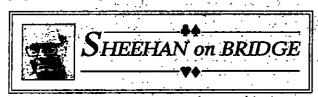
II ICE HOCKEY: Sheffield Steelers expect to complete the signing of Ed Courtney, the former National Hockey League (NHL) forward, today. Courtney, 29, spent several seasons with Kansas City in the International Hockey League before a spell with San Jose Sharks in the NHL Last season, he was the most valuable player for the Carolina Sting in the East Coast League, scoring 54 goals. "I am delighted the Steelers have shown that faith in me," he said.

New cricket format

ECRICKET: Matthew Maynard, the Glamorgan captain. will lead an England side to New Zealand on Monday for a three-match Cricket Max series. Devised by Martin Crowe, the former New Zealand batsman, Cricket Max is a 20-overs-aside game. "It will be an interesting series and enable us to assess the value of the game and whether it can be introduced in this country." Terry Bates, the team manager, said.

Tonga tour opener

■ RUGBY UNION: Tonga start their 12-game British tour with a match against a Redruth President's XV in Cornwall on Sunday. David Briggs, the Waikato prop. will captain the touring team, which will include Kuli Faletau and Siua Taumalolo, of Ebbw Vale. The Redruth side will be bolstered by Paul Hull, the Bristol and former England full



By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

This Refresher illustrates the importance of playing a suit in which you have all the top cards in a way to keep entries flexible.

> ₹J543 . ---- AK 105 **VAKQ 106** ₹872 +.108765 • KJ 103 +AKQJ32

act: Six Spades by South.

two and declarer ruffs low. How should he continue? The first move is to cash the jack and ten of spades. Notice the flexibility of this play. This is now the trump position:



You can reach the North hand by overtaking the king, or you can retain the lead in the South hand by playing the queen under the king. If you leave a position like:



there is no longer an entry to . the South hand.

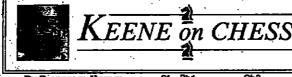
After both players follow to two rounds of spades, you will be home if the diamonds are worth six tricks. Your next move is to play the ace of diamonds and ruff a diamond

West continues hearts at trick with dummy's ace of spades. You then lead the queen of spades from dummy to your king. That draws the last trump and you are in hand to cash the winning diamonds. But what if someone had

shown out on the second trump? (For example, add the six of spades to West's hand, and transfer the five of diamonds to East.) Now your best chance is to find diamonds no worse than 4-2. You lead a third round of spades (your king), overtaking in dummy. You draw the last trump, and hope the diamonds run.

Notice that only if you play your spades in this way do you keep the flexibility to change tack according to the way the

☐ The Times Book of Bridge a compendium of some of Robert Sheehan's daily columns, is now available in all good bookshops or direct from the publisher, B. T. Bassford, on 01376 321276, price £6.99. (plus £1 postage and packing). Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.



CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Kasparov's victories

of openings and also pinpointing with vicious accuracy any weakness in the opening repertoire of his victims. In today's games from Tilburg, Kasparov demolishes one opponent with the Queen's Gambit and another with the Scotch Game. The opening style is different but the champion's aggression shines

Black: Jeroen Piket Tilburg, October 1997 Queen's Gambit Accepted

Bb3

EENE on CHESS By Raymond Keene 21 Bb1 22 Qd3 g6 Bc8 Nc6 Oxa5 Rx7 Kf8 Bxe6 Bc7

26 Nxf7 27 Qxg6+ 28 Nxe6+ 29 Rxc6

White: Garry Kasparov

Scotch Game

Tilburg, October 1997

Black: Peter Leko

Garry Kasparov has a dangerous knack of switching styles

through in both cases.

White: Garry Kasparov

Diagram of final position

Nc64 exid4 + Bc5 bxc6 Ch46 0-0 Ch5 Cxe6 0-0 Ch5 Cxe6 0-0 Ch5 Cxe6 0-0 Cxe6 Times book The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grand-

master Raymond Keene's daily column in The Times, and is available now from bookshops or from B.T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing). ☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WHOMRIC SICHE

By Philip Howard

UAKARI a. A Zulu warrior

b. A monkey c. A fragrant oil a. Betel nut

 b. A Sikh tribal greeting c. Sweet notato stew

b. A wild dog c. A star ZAPATEADO

WARRIGAL

a. A Mexican bandit b. A fish stew c. A stamping dance.

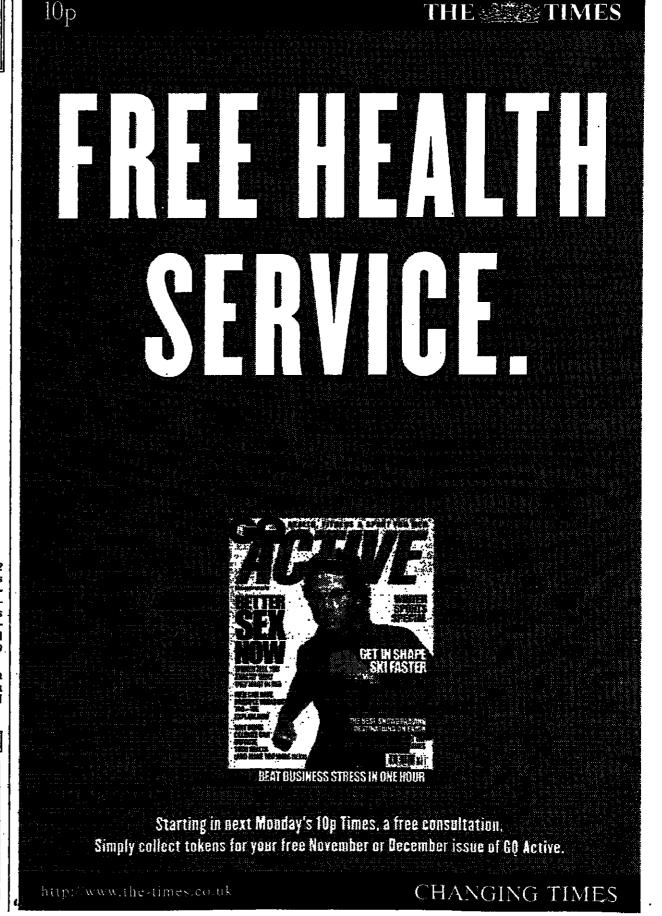
a. A tiresome young woman

- By Raymond Keene White to play. This position is from the game Reti — Asztalos, Kaschau 1914. White has infiltrated his opponent's camp with his queen and knight. He now

found a neat tactic to finish the

game. Can you see it?





United look ahead in quest for perfection

FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

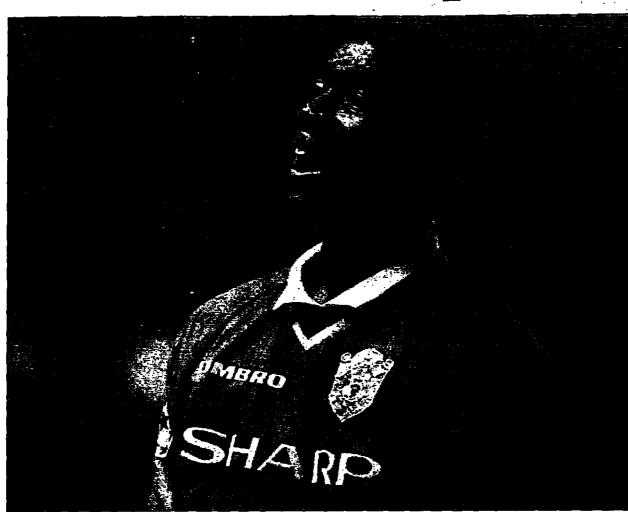
A HAPPY image was playing in Alex Ferguson's mind and for the first time in the press conference, his face creased into a smile. The victory on Wednesday night was his. after all, and Manchester United had joined Bayern Munich and Real Madrid as the only teams to have gained maximum points from their first three Champions' League games. Somebody had ventured that Gary Pallister had enjoyed himself on one surging foray in the second half. 'Aye," Ferguson said, laughbauer minus the shooting."

Outside, the Old Trafford pitch was quiet and dark. A few figures scurried along the touchline, dragging lengths of television cable behind them, packing up for the night. The only chink of light came from one corner of the ground in front of the old Stretford End where a white canopy was stretched over the players' tunnel. Beneath it. Johan Cruyff was holding court.

He, the most respected of tacticians, said that United were strong enough to win the European Cup this season, never mind reaching the quarter-finals. There may have been an element of bias in his opinion, given the presence of his son. Jordi. among the United substitutes, but soon he, like Ferguson, was making comparisons between one of the victors and a former European Footballer of the

"People say England has not produced a striker like Paul Scholes before." Cruyff said. "But when you look back to Kevin Keegan and how he played with John Toshack, I can see Scholes doing exactly the same role here. Keegan is an example of the kind of player Scholes will become. He has got good vision and an eye for goal. He sees things very early in a game and he

showed that tonight." It was Scholes who had provided the highlight of Feyenoord with a deft piece of



Cole, the United striker, reacts after another missed chance against Feyenoord. Photograph: Marc Aspland

control with his chest inside the visitors' box and nothing more than a flick at the ball with his right boot that curled around, rather than over, Dudek in the Feyenoord goal 13 minutes before half time. Scholes, in particular, was

worthy of Cruyff's praise and overall, United's performance was one that deserved to generate optimism. It was a display of pace and incision in which Giggs was once again inspirational and Sheringham and Cole produced some fine linking play, holding the ball in attack and allowing the onrushing midfielders to ben-

efit from their astute passes.
It is a measure of just how far United have come, though, and just how seriously they are regarded as candidates to win the competition this year, that their victory over the Dutch side, a win lent a rather unflattering hue by Vos's late goal for the visitors, was greeted with apathy and even

Most of the United players did not perform with anything like the same gusto they had in their bravura win over Juventus three weeks ago but they still managed comfortably to outclass the side that finished second in the Dutch league last season. They did not lack for creativity, nor for chances. The problem once more, which put them under pressure last night and will do so again if it is not rectified, was their inability to finish.

Ferguson has made much this season of his belief that United will qualify for the quarter-finals of the competition if his team scores in every game. So far, they have obliged him handsomely. On Wednesday, though, there were echoes of the night of tortured frustration they suffered in the second leg of their semi-final against Borussia

Dortmund last season when they spurned opportunity after opportunity and lost the match 1-0, and with it the tie. In some ways, it seems iniquitous to criticise Cole because his all-round play has improved beyond recognition and too often he is made the scapegoat when things go wrong. But United did not buy

THE FA Cup fourth qualify-ing round tie between Billericay Town and Camber-

ley Town at New Lodge tomor-

row will ensure that there will

be at least one newcomer in

the first round when the draw

seen them win at Grays Ath-

but their hosts are confident.

Rod Moore, the Billericay

chairman, said: "It's the third

time we've been in the fourth

qualifying round but it's the

oressive. Until beaten at home

best opportunity we've had." Billericay's form line is imhim for what he can do outside the box; they bought him to score goals on big nights such as Wednesday, and he is showing no sign of doing that consistently. Ole Gunnar Solskiaer, too, is some way short of the finished article as

a foil for Sheringham. Even though United might progress from their group without a high-class international striker, and even though they are probably one of the best teams in the competition without one, it is unlikely they will win it until they rectify the problem. Another trip to South America watch the Chilean. Marcello Salas, might follow. A crack side would have punished United's players for

their profligacy. Those sides would probably include Real Madrid, who crushed Olympiakos 5-1 in the Bernabeu. and Bayern Munich, who humiliated Paris Saint-Germain by the same score at the Olympic Stadium. Both are short-priced favourites to fill

SULTS: PSV Eindhoven 1 Dynamo v 3; Newcastle 3 Barbelona 2;

en. Nov 26: Barcelona v

Barcelona, Newcastle v <u>Dynamo Kle</u>

ec 10: FC Kosice v Fey

EES TO COME: Nov 5: Borussia

quarter-finals. Ferguson, though, has been encouraged by the developments in the other five groups. If United overcome Feyenoord in Rotterdam in a formight, then beat Kosice, the whipping boys of group B, at Old Trafford in late November, they are likely to qualify for the next phase as one of the best runners up at least.

two of the positions in the

C, too, may only provide one entrant into the last eight. For United, the quarter-finals beckon. To be confident of progressing, though, Fergu-They have been helped in

that respect by the two great

disappointments of the compe-tition so far, Barcelona and FC

Porto. Ferguson said that he

had expected group D, which contains Real and Porto, to

provide one of the best run-

ners-up, but the Portuguese

champions lost away to

Olympiakos, were beaten at

home by Real, then fell on

Wednesday at Rosenborg.
The failings of Paris Saint

Germain mean that group E is

unlikely to yield a strong

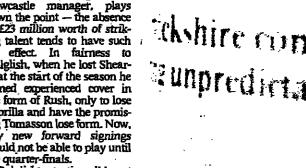
runner-up. Barcelona's par-

lous start suggests that group-

battening down the hatches for a

tional winger, Glenn Helder, to NAC Breda for an undisclosed fee yesterday. He cost Arsenal £2.3 million when George Graham signed him from Vitesse Arnhem in 1995. Fulham confirmed yesterday that they are holding talks with the unsettled West Bromwich Albion striker, Paul Peschisolido, after the clubs agreed a fee of £1.1 million. West Brom in turn were reported to have signed the Ireland international striker, Micky Evans, from South-

long, hard winter. Arsenal sold the Holland interna-



Dalglish's tactics did not help, though. He is, by nature, deeply conservative, and a draw was a limit of his ambition in Holland. The problem was that there was no Plan B when PSV scored.

dropping him. Whatever the internal difficulties, the manager must address, somehow, his most fundamental problem, which De Bilde summed up. "We are not worried about going to Newcastle in two weeks," he said. "They have nothing with which to trouble our defence."

Dalglish's forward planning thwarted HOW THEY STAND By DAVID MADDOCK DA PWELFAPs troupD PWDLFAPs EVEN after a depressing defeat by PSV Eindhoven, group C of the European Cup Cham-Madrid 4 Bosenborg 1 pions' League looks inviting for Newcastle United, such is Ograpiekos 1 FC Porto 0; FC Porto 0 -Reel Madrid 2: Rosenforg 5 Ograpiakos 1: Rosenborg 2 FC Porto 0: Reel Medrid 5 Okrapiakos 1. the quality of the opposition. With a place in the quarterfinals theirs for the taking. Rosenborg, Olympiakos v Real Madrid. New 27: Rosenborg v Real Madrid: FC Porto v Olympiakos, Dec 10: Real ortmund v Parms; Galetteseray v Sperte negue, New 27; Perma v Sperte Pragae; however. Newcastle are firing Porto v Olympiskos. Dec 10: Reel Madrid v PC Porto; Olympiskos v Already, Barcelona seem to be out of the equation after gathering a sickly-looking point from three games. The English team are level with PSV, three points off the pace set by the leaders. Dynamo HEIS: Bayern Munich 2 Bestices 0; Kiev, but both of their main rivals still have to visit St James' Park. Victory in those two games Junich 5 Paris Saint Ge FCHES TO COME: Nov S: Feyencord v nohester United; Juventus v PC BATCHES TO COME. Nov 5: IFK Gothenburg v Besitzer, Paris, Saint-Germain v Bayern Munich, Nov 28: Besitzas v Bayern Munich, (FK would surely give Newcastle the edge in a group that

hind them, such an outcome is hardly within the realms of fantasy. To win, though, Newcastle must score, and therein lies The Sporting Liebon 3 Monac Bayer Leverkusen 1 Lierse 0; Lierse 2 the problem. At the Philips ting Lisbon 1: Monaco 4 Bayer Stadion on Wednesday, they entisen C; Monaco S Derse X; ating Lisbon O Bayer Leverkisser **ICHES TO COME: Nov** 5: Lierse v fielded a strike force that has mustered a single goal all Monacc; Bayer Leverlusen v Sporting Lisbon, Nev 20; Monaco v Sporting Lisbon; Lierse v Bayer Leverlusen, De season — and that against 10: Sporting Lisbon v Lierse; Bayer

Hull City in the Coca-Cola Cup. The top scorer in the squad that travelled to Holland was John Beresford, a full back. It was a point not lost on PSV. Ronald Waterreus, their goalkeeper, contrived to hurt his back playing cards on the

promised much but has so far

delivered little. With a pass-

ionate home support and a

fine European tradition be-

afternioon of the game. He was doubtful for the match but played, explaining: "I decided to risk it, because it was only Newcastle."

It was a sentiment echoed by Gilles de Bilde, his team-mate. The Belgium international forward is not known for his tact, and speaking after his side's 1-0 victory he delivered both barrels. Newcastle were very disappointing," he said. "You ask the question how are they going to score? It is difficult for any side to cope with the absence of Shearer and Asprilla, but they seemed content to play defensively, even when they went a goal down ian Rush was once a great player, but now he is

It was a toothless display in Eindhoven, but then - as much as Kenny Dalglish, the Newcastle manager, plays down the point — the absence of E23 million worth of striking talent tends to have such an effect. In fairness to Dalglish, when he lost Shearer at the start of the season he signed experienced cover in the form of Rush, only to lose Asprilla and have the promising Tomasson lose form. Now, any new forward signings would not be able to play until the quarter-finals.

He has further problems.

Both Batty and Lee were reckless in getting themselves booked and both are banned for the next match.

There also appears some dissent in the camp. Albert was an unhappy spectator as, confined to the bench, he missed the chance to impress the watching Belgium manager. Yesterday, it came as something of a surprise to hear that the defender had announced his international retirement, especially given that he had accused Daiglish, the night before, of costing him a World Cup place by

Chairman stands defiant in spite of City jitters club fourth from bottom of the

By MATT DICKINSON

ONLY at Manchester City could the manager be heard giving the chairman a vote of confidence. Yet that is what the words of Frank Clark amounted to yesterday as he atempted to calm matters at Maine Road. Not long ago a force in Europe, City cannot now even claim to be a force in Manchester. Where they traded workplace insults with United, the club's supporters now suffer the jibes of their neighbours from Bury and Stockport County. The defeat by Stoke City at Maine Road on Wednesday night left the

Nationwide League first division with two wins from 11 games. The supporters greeted the latest setback filing out in droves long before the final whistle and shouting halfhearted demands for the dismissal of Francis Lee, the chairman.

That more than 25,000 should have turned up on an evening when United were continuing their conquest of Europe, though, is one of the reasons why Lee has no intention of standing down. After more than three years in charge, he is convinced that City has everything in place for the Premiership - except

for the small matter of the team. "Everything from the Kappa kit deal, the superstore, the Brother sponsorship and the new training ground, is there," he said at the annual general meeting this month. We are at the point where we

should have been three years ago. We have the werewithal to generate our own money and to be considered one of the biggest clubs in the Premiership. The only thing we are waiting for is for the people who pull on the shirts on Saturday to join in. I don't mean that facetiously."

The players themselves may take some convincing. While Clark has

spent less than 12 months in the job, his purchases so far appear to have been players capable of keeping a team in the first division rather than getting one out of it. Georgi Kinkladze's talents have been submerged by the mediocrity of the division and Uwe Rosler remains on the transfer list with no solution

Clark angrily dismisses talk of elegation to the second division and Lee is so convinced that he has offered to leap from the Kippax stand should that happen. There appears to be no immediate end to

the problems, however, and Clark is ampton for £750,000.

Billericay banish promotion blues NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMMIE

> by Aldershot Town last week, they had won ten matches in ssion and risen to fourth place in the table.
> "We came within one point

of promotion last year," Moore said. "I talked things is made in the evening. Camberley, the lowly Isthmian League third division club, have battled their way to over long and hard with John Kendall, the manager, and we this stage for the first time since the 1933-34 season, when they were beaten by Northfleet decided that, to take the club that stage farther, we needed more experienced players. To see how hard it is to get out of United. Their run has already this league you just have to look at Aldershot, with all letic, leaders of the first division, in which Billericay play. their resources, who have been trying to do it for four having last Saturday knocked Grays out of the FA Umbro

The recruits this season have included Dave Root, the former Kingstonian and Hendon goalkeeper, Billy Gould-stone, formerly of Cheisea and Grays, and Andy Theodosiou, who has played for Dover Athletic and Crawley Town. They have helped Billericay to the club for 20 years. With a

cope with the defeat on the final day of last season that cost them promotion. Riding the high of an 18-match unbeaten run, Billericay needed victory at Berkhamsted Town — but lost 2-0.

The atmosphere at the club this week is the same as before that match," Moore said. "We played a reserve match on Tuesday and there were all kinds of people there you wouldn't normally see - all talking about the cup match." Moore, 47, is managing

director of Union Star Line, a shipping company based in Hainault. It was loyalty to the town where he was born and bred that drew him to the club. But he also believes his FA coaching badge and the work businessman's head for fig-ures, he charts the club's rising prosperity.
"We've done a roadshow in

the town and started a junior membership scheme, which for £1 buys a season ticket. We've got 127 members. We're selling the principle that, even without a junior membership, a family with two children can come down for under £10 whereas at the Arsenals and Cheiseas it would be about £20

In playing terms the target set is promotion, the first round of the FA Cup and the first round of the Trophy". Victory tomorrow, Moore says, will go some way to-wards "laying a ghost. There are a lot of people at the club who talk of everything in terms of the Seventies successes IFA Vase winners in 1976, 1977 and 1979]. I'd like them to think of the club in terms of

Ten-year-old on the spot to win a fortune

nating an adult in his place, in an attempt to win £107,000 in a football penalty shoot-out competition on Sunday. The prize to the winner is the biggest sum ever guaranteed to a

fan in a football-related promotion. Chris Squire, a primary school pupil from Barnstaple, Devon, is one of five finalists who will line up in front of Phil Parkes, the former England goalkeeper, during the half-time break of the Nationwide League first division match between Queens Park Rangers and Manchester City. The other four will be adults, one a

The shoot-out is the climax to a breakfast cereal competition in which the rules allow the finalists to send out an experienced penalty-taker on their behalf, provided the substitute has no professional or semi-professional ex-

10-year-old boy is backing his David Powell on penalty shoot-out challengers facing a nerve-racking ordeal in front of 15,000 fans

> perience. Chris, though, will be doing the job himself as he and his parents have put the thrill of the occasion before the money.

"This is a very, very special day for Chris," Martin Squire, Chris's father, said. "No matter how much money I could earn. I would never be able to buy him an experience like this. It is something he is going to remember all his life. No doubt we will be hearing about it for months." The last one to miss in the sudden-death shoot-out

takes the money. Chris has been practising hard at the ground where he plays every ; Saturday. "I cannot believe I am going out in front of a crowd of 15,000," he said. "I normally only play in front of ... summer.

about 20. I have been telling all my school friends but they do not really believe me. One said: 'Oh yes? And I am going to get a kiss from the Spice

Glenn Hoddle, the England coach. chose the five finalists from a competition in which they had to complete a tie breaker beginning: "My favourite World Cup breakfast ..." Chris wrote in: "... gives hunger the red card." His mother. Janet Squire, insisted: "He thought up the line himself."

The competition was called Kick and Win a Million, as the prize is one million French francs. The cereal maker. Nabisco, is a sponsor of the World Cup finals in France next

Only one of the five, a 45-year-old man from Bishopstown, Cork, has asked somebody else step in. Finbart Long has nominated 42-year-old John Flynn to take the shots for him. John has played more football than me and coaches a youth team in Ballincollig, so be knows what he is doing," he said. If they win, they have agreed to split

Geraldine Quiruga, ZI, from Liver-pool, the sole woman, is a former left back for St John Moore's University, Liverpool "As long as I do not do a Gareth Southgate in the first round, I will be happy," she said.

A mechanical and engineering sin-

dent. Quiruga could do with the money to buy a new television. "Ours has just packed in." she said.

Another contestant, lan Hudson, 31 from Alcester, has persuaded his wife to take up goalkeeping so that he car



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Tufnell will plead forgetfulness to Lord's drug panel

CRICKET must today confront its fourth drugs case in little more than a year, conscious that this one is different in two uncomfortable ways. Philip Tufnell, unlike the three previous miscreants, is a high-profile England player, he is also not accused of failing a drugs test but of refusing to

Tufnell knows that he can expect no special treatment for the first factor and no easy forgiveness for the second. He must also know that the potential consequences of his disciplinary hearing at Lord's are grave. Any suspension would automatically exclude him from the winter tour to the West Indies — probably bringing a recall for Peter Such — but this would be merely the start of his

No English cricketer since Ian Botham has slipped on so banana skins as Tufnell. His Test career has produced occasional delight but regular disillusionment and patience in high places

has long since run thin. Middlesex, his only employ-er since he left school, have provided a constant crutch in troubled times and they are evidently supporting him again now. Indeed, the strength of their faith, and the nature of their evidence, is likely to have a crucial bearing on the hearing.

The relevant game was the last of the season, a championship match at Chelmsford. Tufnell, still bathed in the glory of his match-winning bowling during the Oval Test against Australia, was randomly chosen for a routine drugs test, along with his team-mate, Paul Weekes. They were, apparently, the first Middlesex players selected for testing during the

What happened next is central. It will, I understand, be Tufnell's assertion that he presented himself to the testing room during the lunch interval but found himself

unable to give the required urine sample. If this is so, and accepted by the disciplinary panel, then his subsequent failure to return at close of play will surely be treated far more leniently than if it is found he did not attend at

simply forgor. Other theories advanced have been concerns about an eye injury that affected him during the game and about the health of his wife. It will be a sensitive task for the panel to adjudicate on such claims when, if they wish, they can simple refer Tufnell to the guidelines of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) that give warn-



ing that anyone failing to comply with the drug testing procedure is "liable to be dealt with as if you have been shown to have a prohibited substance in your body".

Tufnell will be represented today by his union, the Professional Cricketers Association (PCA), but can expect no blind loyalty from them on the general issue. The PCA is itself taking a proactive stance to rid cricket of the stigma of drugs and some of its officers were dismayed at what they perceived as the lenient treatment of the most recent culprit, Keith Piper.

The Warwickshire wicketkeeper tested positive in June. when the county took the

unprecedented step of subject

ed their entire playing staff to unscheduled tests before a net

session. Cannabis, the drug

involved, is not on the Sports

Council's list of banned sub-

stances and Warwickshire,

free to assess the punishment

themselves, banned Piper for one match and fined him a

week's wages. Warwickshire's action in

testing all their players was

admirable but also self-protec-

tive as the two previous drugs cases dealt with by the ECB

involved one man about to play for them. Ed Giddins,

and another, in Paul Smith,

who admitted to cocaine abuse

It is a moot point whether

many, if any, county dressing-

rooms would prove to be entirely clean of "social drugs"

if all were tested on the same

basis, but, stung in particular by the case of Smith, whose

extravagant newspaper alle-gations reflected discredit on

the game, cricket is striving to

eliminate both the reality and

It is into these disturbed,

distrustful waters that Tufnell must go today. To some extent he will be throwing himself on

the mercy of the panel, trying

to convince them that he was

not being evasive, far less

indicating guilt, on the day in

question. A great deal hangs

the suspicion of drugs.

while on their staff.

present - and his individual success at the 1986 Masters, when he was 46. Then came Byron Nelson's

To these non-American eyes, tain bias towards events in that country. That, however, was

competition. I listed my own 25 great moments

on the powers of such Heading the panel will be Gerard Elias, QC, the chairman of the board's discipline committee and unequivocal in his attitude to drugs in cricket. "We owe a duty to generations to come to maintain the game as it should be played," he said recently. "Drugs can have no

"Reading your article," he wrote cheerily, "it has come part in our game."
Elias will have been involved in the drafting of the board's anti-drugs charter and can have no doubt over its legal safety. But, after so many blatant brushes with authority, it will be ironic indeed if Tufnell's most damaging punhandicap is no longer 17. ishment were to be caused by

Uncorking the champagne moments

John Hopkins, golf correspondent, sifts

readers' responses to his appeal for

an intoxicating celebration of the sport

United States in 1930 which became known as the Impregnable Quadrialteral. and was the forerunner of the modern grand slam — has been selected as the greatest moment in the history of golf. The announcement came Some of the great and the good of the golfing world who formed the judging panel chose four more achievements from the game's long Nicklaus's accomplishments in his professional career —

11 consecutive victories on the US PGA Tour in 1945 and the victory by Francis Ouimet, an amateur, over Harry Vardon and Ted Ray in the 1913 US

that is, from 1961 to the

memory sings for ever'

and asked for yours, for which I said I would award a bottle of champagne to the

For sheer brass neck, Oscar G. Caceres, a lawyer in Guatemala City, takes the biscuit. Whereas every other correspondent ruminated on the 25 moments as outlined and came up with a broadly similar list, Mr Caceres went for something completely dif-

back to my memory the net 59 I shot with a 17 handicap playing a local championship at the Guatemala Country Club here in Guatemala City." Congratulations, Mr Caceres. No doubt your Nigel Potter's thoughtful

B obby Jones's feat of winning the Amateur and Open champion-ships of Britain and the list might have been a contender were it not for the fact that he dares to dispute with The Times the date of James tender were it not for the fact football and golf. Perhaps I did get that wrong. Mr Potter, but you can't speli Joyce Wethered's surname.

The briefest entry came from Graham Bradley, of Purley. His two nominations were Gary Player's semi-final victory against Tony Lema in the 1965 World Match Play Championship, an event that received support from many Faldo's upset of Greg Norman at the Masters last year. Mr Bradley's other suggestion was Severiano Ballesteros's putt on the 72nd green at St Andrews in the 1984 Open. Mr Bradley add-ed a PS: "What about golf's saddest moment?" saying that he feit it was Roberto de Vicenzo's scorecard disaster at the 1968 Masters.

There was considerable support for the original code Peel Yates cites

'Such a what would our

modern putters those greens with the next tee within a club's length of the hole? - but also as the start of endless wrangles, disputes, decisions and general hassle

Still the letter that really got my attention concentrated on one hole and is described in vivid detail. The moment was Ben Hogan's playing of the 72nd hole at Carnoustic in the 1953 Open Championship. "My memo-Glenfardas," John Magill

writes from Glasgow.
"On the 18th tee, the little below average height, lithe dark Texan, conservatively dressed in white cap, yellow slipover and cardigan, took ince and aim to make his final drive, knowing full well a cast-iron four would clinch



Ballesteros celebrates his moment of triumph at St Andrews in 1984

the title. The tension was evident after the executed swing. It was a slasher's swing, the ball was caught very thin (nearly a Kilmarnock shot, ie, along the grounds it hardly rose ten

wards a trio of shallow . bunkers. The great man's luck held. The ball went right through them and rested on grass just beyond. The approach No 5 iron was played and landed about two feet

Mr Magill concludes "Such memory sings for ever a bottle of Glenfarcias to Mr. Magill. I hope champagne will be acceptable. Thank you to everyone who entered.

Warwickshire confident of signing unpredictable Lara

THE turbulent relationship between Brian Lara and Warwickshire appeared to be heading for calmer waters yesterday when the club received a verbal assurance by telephone from Lara, who was on his way to Pakistan with the West Indies team, that he will, after all, return to the county in 1998. Earlier this week a source close to him said that he was having second thoughts about the one-

There could still be many a slip twixt cup and lip. how-ever. Warwickshire are awaiting written confirmation from the West Indies board that Lara will not be required to play in domestic matches there during the early weeks of the English season. If that is not forthcoming, Warwick-shire would almost certainly look elsewhere. If it is - and Warwickshire expect clearance within the next four weeks - Lara's contract will then be signed on his behalf by

his agent. "Brian was always coming to us and he said he does not know where the rumours came from," Dennis Amiss. the Warwickshire chief executive, said. "We hope to get a contract to him in the next month. Brian indicated that he expects to be available to us at the end of April."

good, however. He completed one record-breaking season with Warwickshire in 1994, but after they thought they had signed him ahead of Allan Donald on a three-year deal starting in 1996 he pulled out,

him to a dressing-room irritated by his previous pleas for telephone onto the field during a match at Taunton). Donald refused to fill the gap. Fortu-



By SIMON WILDE

citing exhaustion.

Lara's track record is not

That decision did not endear special treatment and his publicity stunts (he took a mobile

only 643 runs.

Nottinghamshire, while, have lined up Paul Strang, the Zimbabwean, as their next overseas player. He is keen to return to county

nately for Lara, Dermot Reeve, the former captain and his most vehement critic, has now left.

There is no question that Lara would be potentially an invaluable acquisition. He scored a phenomenal 1,423 runs in his first ten championship innings in 1994, including a world record 501 not out against Durham, before his

fame took its toll. He refused to field in a match at Northampton after arguing with Reeve, produced a doctor's note recommending rest - he was granted one week - and in his last 15 championship innings scored

Another complicating factor is the West Indies captaincy. Any decision to install Lara as captain in succession to Courtney Walsh, who is 35 next week, could affect his plans. Walsh is leading the team in Pakistan but defeat there could prompt a change for the series with England

that starts in January.

Saqlain Mushtaq will rejoin Surrey depending on how frequently he will be wanted by Pakistan.

SNOOKER

Stevens holds his nerve

By PHIL YATES

Stevens made a 67 break to

level at 4-4 and, when Parrott

grossly misjudged a straight-forward safety shot in the final

frame, Stevens put together a

run of 62 and then fluked the

penultimate red when contain-

ment was his sole intention.

Three pots later. Parrott

"I played two strong framer to finish and that's satisfying," Stevens, the world No 53, said.

"What happened against Mark and Billy stood me in

good stead, because knowing that you are capable of fight-

MATTHEW STEVENS stayed calm under pressure once again yesterday to claim a 5-4 victory over John Parrott and a place in the semi-finals of the Grand Prix in

Bournemouth. Stevens, 20, edged out Mark Williams, the title-holder, 5-4 in the third round and Billy Snaddon by the same score in the last round after trailing 4-2. Against Parrott, he was 4-3 down with two frames to play after relinquishing a 3-2 lead. Parrott led 35-0 in the eighth frame when he missed

a tricky black off its spot with the reds spread invitingly.

Women's game lifted THE low profile of women's snooker is set for a brighter future after a takeover of the World Ladies Billiards and Snooker Association (WLBSA) by its more power-

ful male counterpart (Phil Yates writes). Jim McKenzie, the chief executive of the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA). described the move as "a welcome new departure" and said the WPBSA's investment would involve supporting prize-money.

The leading players can

also expect greater television

development. Several finals will be played as appetisers for men's tournaments, begin-ning with the United Kingdom championship in Preston next month.

Problems still stand in the way of growth, not least the recent loss of Allison Fisher. the seven times world champion, now resident in the United States and competing on the lucrative Nine Ball pool tour. Fisher boasted vic-tories over Mike Hallett, Tony Drago and Neil Foulds in competition before her ing back gives you confidence to do it again."

Parrott, who, given the unexpected composition of the line-up in the quarter-final was entitled to a degree of optimism about his chances of ending a barren run of title success that stretches back to the European Open of March 1996, pinpointed his mistake on the black in the eighth frame as the turning point in the match. "If I hadn't missed that I would have won, so obviously it's very frustrating," he said.

Jimmy White's quest for his first triumph in a worldranking event since the United Kingdom championship of November 1992 continues today when he plays Mick Price. of Nuneaton, in their quarterfinal. White is expected to win. even though on the three previous occasions that they have played each other Price has won each time.

John Higgins, who is now favourite to take the Grand Prix title and the £60,000 first prize, plays John Read, who has already enjoyed a memorable week, registering vic-tories over Ronnie O'Sullivan, the world No7, and Tony Drago, the world No II, during which he was particularly impressive under pressure. Overcoming Higgins will require much of the same steel.

CYCLING

Boardman eyes an Irish start to Tour

studying his atlas last night after the route of the 1998 Tour de France was announced in Paris (Peter Bryan writes). The 3,875km race starts on July 11 - a week later than normal, to lessen the clash with football's World Cup finals in France - with a 5.7km pro-

logue time trial through the centre of Dublin.
This is followed by two road race stages in the Irish countryside before the event moves: to France. Boardman is famillogue circuit and the early routes down the west of France towards the Pyrences. where the first serious mountain stage takes place between Pau to Luchon on July 21.

"The next day from Luchon to Plateau de Beille [170km] could be a hard one." he said yesterday, "I don't recall the Plateau de Beille being in the Tour before but I have ridden it in another race and it's a demanding climb."

After crossing the Alps the Tour will spend two days in

- 74<u>.</u>



HOCKEY: ENGLAND TRIP TO CAIRO GOES AHEAD AS REGIONAL LEADERS EYE RETURN TO NATIONAL STAGE

Egyptian tour survives setbacks

ENGLAND are to go ahead with their proposed trip to Egypt, despite the cancellation of a men's international tournament that was due to start in Cairo on November 2.

After Germany, Malaysia and Poland had withdrawn from an original field of six, approval had been given by the International Hockey Federation for an official three-nation tournament involving Egypt. India and England to be played in Cairo. There was also to be an unofficial tournament between England, India and two Egyptian teams but, when India pulled out. those plans fell through, too.

David Whittle, the England manager, said yesterday that the team would depart on Thursday to play five fixtures against Egypt, two of which will be official internationals. By Sydney Friskin

The main thing is we have managed to salvage something from the tour rather than let it fall apart," he said. In his view, the matches will give the England players a chance to start a competitive programme with Barry Dancer, their new Australian coach. Cannock. Southgate and Houns-

low will strive to keep their unbeaten records in the National League premier division this weekend. Cannock will still be without Kalbir Takher, their centre half, whose ankle injury has not healed, but their task, compared with those of their two rivals, is less forbidding. They are away to Barford Tigers tomorrow, and on Sunday they entertain Beeston, whom they have already beaten convincingly. Southgate, with

Craig O'Hagan, the South Africa centre half, in their squad, are away to their old rivals, Hounslow, and will take on East Grinstead on

East Grinstead are hoping for more goals from Gibson. who scored twice in the 3-2 victory against Doncaster last week. Hounslow ought to be at full strength, although Williamson's injured thumb might keep him out of action. They face a testing time on Sunday when they travel to Teddington, who put themselves on the road to recovery by

defeating Guildford 40 last week. Reading, the title-holders, who lost 40 to Canterbury a fortnight ago. will be seeking revenge when they entertain the Kent club on Sunday. Both sides expect to be at full strength.

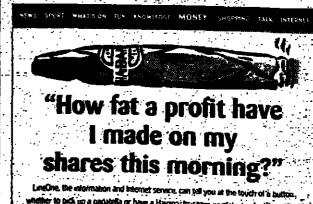
Harborne struggle to find route back to the top

DESPITE losing their National League status three seasons ago. Harborne have held their own in the DTZ Midlands premier division and have now emerged as leaders (Cathy Harriw writes). According to Trevor Clarke, the Harborne coach, a key difficulty has been the presence of three other former National League sides in the struggle to win the title and qualify for the play-offs."

Clarke, the former national coach to England and Canada, said: Edgbaston, Coventry and Olton have been there before, which makes it very difficult. In the last three seasons we've played 54 games and lost three, but we haven't done the important bit." It is a familiar story throughout the regions.

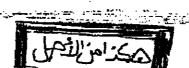
Two more former National League clubs, Whitchurch and Taumon, are unbeaten at the head of the West table, Peterborough and Cambridge City are top in the East and City of Portsmouth are undefeated in the ESL South League. Not all clubs are as fortunate. There is a general exodus of leading players when clubs go down from the National League and for some the downward

spiral can prove terminal. Westcliff, founder members, disbanded last year, and Brean are in the lower leagues in the West after amalgamating with Portishead to form North Somerset. There are exceptions and, after several dreadful seasons, Broxbourne have achieved successive promotions.



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Poor start costly for Henman

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

A DISJOINTED opening 15 minutes in his joust with Jonas Bjorkman ultimately condemned Tim Henman to a narrow third-round defeat at the Eurocard Open here yesterday. Although the match developed into a compelling contest, punctuated by memorable passages from both players, Henman could never redeem his early follies and

succumbed 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.
The Great Britain No 2 opened with a thunderous service game, but squandered the next two with a couple of slack forehands as Bjorkman. seeded No 13, advanced to a 4-i lead.

Henman said later he found it difficult to adjust to his surroundings, the auxiliary to the Stadium Court. "I couldn't judge distances and felt very enclosed," he said. "It was a big change from the main court and it took five games

before I was comfortable." By then, of course, the first set was beyond redemption.

Bjorkman is too fierce a competitor to let such an opportunity slip. As seeds in their quarter collapsed like dominoes, both players will have recognised the scope for progress in this EL3 million tournament - with its valuable rankings points on the road to the ATP world championships at Hanover next

A prolonged stay here would have hoisted Henman to the fringes of qualification: he smashed his racket in frustration at the end of the

Indeed, he appeared more likely to prevail when he captured the second set. The game eight, when Henman established break point after a net. Even then. Bjorkman

1 1

threatened to negate the damage as Henman, now at full stretch, required four set points to level the contest.

Henman also had his chances in set three. Twice the moment beckoned; twice the Swede, himself prone to buckling under pressure, refused to bend an inch.

The nuts and bolts of it are that on the two break points I had, he made two first serves. He had the one opportunity to break - and I left myself hitting a second serve." It was a pertinent observation from Henman, who must re-examine his service on these fast indoor carpets. In that destructive opening

15 minutes, Henman made just three of 17 first services. His tally of double faults nine - was only marginally less than his ten aces.

Once again, he returned a first-serve ratio below 50 per cent, exerting pressure on the rest of his game. Inconsistency in this department remains his greatest enemy - even if feels he is playing well enough to win a tournament.

Henman arrived on court knowing that Pete Sampras had succumbed to Richard Krajicek, seeded No 16, in straight sets. Sampras was simply outhit by a resurgent Krajicek. One of the few players with the upper hand in previous dealings with Sampras, Krajicek, a former Wimbledon champion, extended his superiority to four wins from six matches. His reward is a tussle with Magnus Larsson for a semi-final place. Sampras's defeat leaves him technically vulnerable as the world No I, although it would require early losses in Paris

Rafter, seeded No 3 here, kept himself in contention, his first-set lapse proving a minor deterrent as he breezed past ball exchange of volleys at the er. 3-6, 6-2, 6-1. Rafter is, by some distance, the highest-their berths in Hanover.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Michael Schumacher and Jacques Villeneuve go head-to-head

READ THE 18-PAGE SPORT SECTION THIS WEEKEND FOR THE BEST ANALYSIS

AND REPORTS AS THE GRAND PRIX SEASON REACHES A NAIL-BITING CLIMAX

NDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PA

next week, and Hanover next

month, for Patrick Rafter to



A dejected Henman ruminates on a lost point during his defeat by Bjorkman

ranked player left in this tournament. Drawn in the opposite half to the menacing Krajioek, he has an excellent

opportunity to capitalise. Greg Rusedski has decided to stay here to practise with his coach, Tony Pickard, before going to Paris for the Super Nine event. Despite his early exit on Wednesday, Rusedski remains favoured to qualify for the eight-man world championship in Hanover. Those immediately below him the rankings-orientated in race were equally disappoint-ing here: Carlos Moyà, Sergi Brugera, Thomas Muster and Alex Corretja all perished at the same stage as the Great Britain No I.

However, those further below Rusedski - who is likely to remain in fourth place are closing the gap. In addition to Bjorkman, Marcelo Rios and Krajicek remain in contention to collect further points here this week. Rafter have already secured

Britain struggle to gain upper hand

By Alix Ramsay

THE omens were writ large from the very start of the Maureen Connolly Cup. As the players and the crowd made their way through the doors of the Lancashire club in Manchester they were greeted by two national symbols, one a big, bristling Jeep Cherokee draped in the Stars and Stripes, the other a tiny Mini Cooper swamped by the Union Jack. It said it all.

Britain are aiming for their fifth successive victory over the United States in the annual competition but yesterday they made heavy weather of the opening rounds. With every opportunity to demolish the inexperienced opposition, the British team instead made

Mandy Wainwright, upagainst Mary Carlisle White,

SONAX

seemed in complete control in the opening rubber when she served for the match at 5-3 in the second set. But she lost that game to love as her opponent took 14 successive points and forced the contest into a third set.

Wainwright saved three match points at 5-1 down and another at 5-4 but luck deserted her when White engineered a fifth chance to finish her off. A string on Wainwright's racket broke, the ball looped straight to White and the American finished off the rally to win 3-6, 7-5, 6-4.

Amanda Janes fared better but still made life difficult for herself. The Briton waltzed through the first set 6-1, much Christine Truman, who attended the match, before runnine into trouble in the second. Where her powerful service and forehand had left Whitney Laiho flapping her racket at thin air early on. Janes was suddenly unable to do anything right.

"I went off to another planet for a while - I do that sometimes," she said. Wherever she went, it did little for her mother's blood pressure. Eventually she broke the Laiho service for the third and final time in the deciding set to put herself on course for a 6-1. 4-6, 6-3 victory to level the tie.

By this time the pattern was set in stone. Lorna Woodroffe took to the court against Jackie Trail and eased through the first set only to throw the second away twice. Initially overpowered by Trail, she fought back from 0-5 to take the second set to a tie-break but then won a meagre two points and had to start all over again in the third. However Woodroffe held her nerve to put Britain 2-1 ahead with a 6-2, 6-7, 6-3 win.

WORD WATCHING ... Answers from page 43

UAKARI (b) Also ouakari, wakari. A short-tailed monkey of the genus Cacajao, found in the upper Amazon basin, especially Cacajao rubicundus, which has a red face and shagay reddishbrown for. The Tupi word. "The curious trakarl monkeys with their shaggy coats, abbreviated tails and sad, naked, almost

SIRIH (a) A trailing tropical shrub. Piper betel, of the family where the pungent leaves are chewed with areca nuts. 'i looked back at the kampong women, their lips, red with sirth juice, like cerise flowers."

an faces.

WARRIGAL (b) The Australian wild dog or Dingo. The aboriginal word said to mean both dog and savage, "We could find no traces of the sheep except in two places, where we could perceive they had been pursued by the

ZAPATEADO

(c) A flamenco dance which involves complex rhythmic syncopated stamping of the heels and toes in imitation of castanets. From the Spanish zapato a shoe. "Autonio is in certain details of the Spanish dance the greatest exponent I have seen. Both his Bolero and his Zapateado must be seen to be believed."

SOLUTION TO WINNING. CHESS MOVE NdS, with dual threats against c7

And the second of the second o

TELEVISION CHOICE

A green gumshoe

TV. 9.00pm

"Patience and persistence" are two words of wisdom offered to Cordelia Gray (Helen Baxendale) by her avuncular private detective boss, just before he commits suicide and leaves her the lot. The same might apply to this beautifully shot and well-cast three-part adaptation of P.D. James's novel from Ecosse Films, which hearing slowly but promises to pay off in smades. begins slowly but promises to pay off in spades. Baxendale is excellent as the young, inexperienced woman in a man's world, managing to display both nervous vulnerability and a steely determination. Aided by the estimable Ameter Croshie as office manager Edith Sparshott, Cordelia Gray's first assignment is yet another apparent suicide. She is hired by a none-too-fond father to find out why his over-privileged 23-year-old son should take his own life. With only eight months' experience under her belt it is little wonder. her efforts are met with hostility. A suitable evening's viewing.

Have I Got News For You

BBC2, 10.00pm Welcome back, Hislop, Merton and Deayton: your country needs you. With plenty of material provided by the parties scrabbling around to claim the middle ground, the trio should have no trouble in savaging all and sundry. As the format has proved hugely successful for the previous 13 series there is no reason to mess about with it. So Angus there is no reason to mess about with it. So Angus the provided of the previous of the same providing the providing to make much play of the Deayton will continue to make much play of the sardonic eyebrow, Paul Merton will fly off to some unknown galaxy during one of his more surreal monologues and lan Hislop will inject some hard news-related satire. Merion is joined by the veteran funnyman Bob Monkhouse and Histop has the maverick Labour MP, Ken Livingstone, in

The Wogan Years
BBC1, 10.20pm

First we had highlights from the heavyweight end of the chat show with Parkinson, now we have cuts from the lightweight end. Undisputed king of the genre, Wogan was a genial, twinkly and consummate professional when it came to hosting

Merton, Hislop, Deayton (BBC2, 10.00)

his thrice-weekly live show. From 1985 to 1992 he his thrice-weekly live show, from 1985 to 1992 he reigned supreme. In this cut and paste highlights show, Wogan introduces the best bits in bite size pieces. Unlike-Parkinson who showed the entire interview, Wogan dips in and out, pulling out stars and performances like a lucky dip winner. The first programme starts off on a disappointing note from the two Bonds, Connery and Moore. a mistake which is soon eradicated by the joyous pairing of Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau.

Rory Brenner - Who Else? Channel 4, 10.30pm

Channel 4, 10.30pm.

That good old British tradition of poking for at people in power gets a fresh lease of life as Rory Bremner brings his sixth series back to Friday nights, reclaiming the evening from the Americans. Rory will be like a child in a sweet shop with a new Government and a new set of characters to stretch his imitative powers. While the Johns, Bird and Fortune, continue to delight with their mock interviews that demolish corruption and stupidity in high places, Rory and his team of writers will be designing all sorts of treats for William Hague and Peter Mandelson. As ever, the programmes are recorded close to ever, the programmes are recorded close to broadcast but we are promised a weekly visit to Tony's House Party (a reference to Noel Editionals' Saturday evening slot for those who have better things to do) where naughty visitors end up in the Spin Tank for political realignment. Frances Lass

WORLD SERVICE

6.00mm Neweday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 The World Today 7.30 Pick of the World 8.00 News 8.15 Off the Shell: The Potrait of a Lady 8.30 Music Review 9.00 News; News In German (648 only) 9.16 Paules for Thought 9.15 Partormence 9.30 John Peet 10.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 History Today 10.30 ISBC English. Speaking of English 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Plants of Power 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30pm Focus on Felth 1,00 News, News in German (648 only) 1.05 World Business Report 1.15 Butain Today 1.30 Ends of the World 1.45 Sports Roundup 2.00 Newshour 3.00 News 3.05 Cuttook 3.30 Multitack Albertative 4.06 Football Euro 4.15 Persodox 4.30 Science in Action, News in German (648 only) 5.60 Europe Today 5.30 World Euroess Report 5.45 Britan Today 6.00 News 6.15 The World Today 6.30 The Insider's

Today 5,00 News 6,16. The World Today 6,30 The Install Today 6,00 News 6,16. The World Today 6,30 The Install 5. Quide; News in German (648 only) 6,45 Sports Roundup 7,00 Newsdask 7,30 Facus on Feith 8,00 News 8,01 Cutlock 8,25 Pause for Thought 8,30 Multitract: Alternative 9,00 Newshour 10,00 News 10,05 World Bueiness Report 10,15 British Today 10,30 People and Politics 11,00 Newsdask 11,30 The New

Europe 11.45 Sports Roundum 12.05 News 12.05cm Custom

2.30 Mulfiteack Atternative 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 From the Weekles 1.45 Bittain Today 2.00 Newsdesk 1.30 From the Weekles 1.45 Bittain Today 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Paradox 2.45 The Insider's Guide 2.55 Spotlight 3.00 Newsday 3.30 People and Politics 4.00 News 4.05 World Business Report 4.15 Sports Rounder 4.30 The World Today; Weekend

CLASSIC FM

6,00mm Alan Mann 9.00 Nick Bailey. Includes the Classic Masterpiece and the Nati of Fame Hour 1.00pm Listener Réquest Hour with Jane Jones 2.00 Concerto. C.P.E. Bach (Cello Concerto in B flat) 3.00 Jame Crick 7.00 Newshight with

John Brunning 7:30 Sonata. Mozart (Plano Sonata No. 2 in F) 8.00 Evening Concert. Rossini (Overture The Barber of 8.00 Evening Concert. Rossini (Overture The Barber of 8.00 Evening Concert. Rossini (Introduction, Theme and Varisburgs); Schubert (Symphory No 6 in C) 10.00 Michael Mappin. Includes at 11.35 Noctume

RADIO CHOICE

The Night of the October Revolution Law in Action Radio 4. 8.50pm Radio 4. 8.50pm

My regular homage to the start of a new season of this series probably has some readers wondering if the presenter, Marcel Berlins, gives me free legal advice in exchange for the occasional plug. Not guilty, alas. I praise this programme because it consistently makes sense of a subject that is impenetrable to most ordinary mortals. I also think that the programme must be good at legal matters because plenty of lawyers seem to make a point of hearing it. The third thing to be said in favour of Law in Action is that it gets around to the issues arising from cases while they are still fresh in the mind: if only the judicial process was as quick on its feet. Tonight the subjects are inquests and legal aid.

Peter Barnard

Radio 3, 5.00pm No one should despair if they are trapped in the office or on a train at 5pm when this commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the Bolshevik uprising starts: you will need to be held up for seven hours to miss all of it. There have been revolutions, though admittedly not the Russian one, that have begun and ended in the time that Radio 3 is devotine to this anniversary, but the BBC is never knowingly undersold when it comes to birthdays. Never mind, there is much to savour in an evening presented by John Simpson live from the Winter Palace, it will include a mix of live music, poetry, audio snapshots of modern Russia and of course discussion with various academics

RADIO 1

6.30am Kevin Greening and Zoé Bali 9.00 Smon Mayo 12.00
Jo Whiley Includes 12.30pm Newsbeat 2.00 Merk Redollife
4.00 Dave Peace 5.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Pete Tong: Essential
Selection 9.00 Judge Jules 11.00 Radio 1 Rap Show 2.00am
One in the Judgie on Tour. Steppaz Convension In Brighton
4.00 Charlie Jordan

6.00am Alex Lester 7.35 Sarah Kennedy 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1,30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Hubert Gregg 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night 9.15 Dracula. Hywel Bennett reads Bram Stoker's novel 9.30 Listen to the Band 10.00: The Arts Progressme with Sharidan Mortey 12.05am Petrick Lunt 4.00 Diane Louise Jordan

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breaktest Programme 9.00 The Magazine with Nicky Campbell 12:00 Midday with Mair 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 Navis Extra with Annie Webster 7.30 Sportstelk with Alan Green 8.30 Friday Sport, Includes Reading v Nottingnam Forest 10.00 Paper Telk with Brian Alexander and Jay Rayner 11,00 News Extra 12,00 After Hours 2,00cm Up All Night with Richard Dallyn 5,00 Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00sm Jeremy Clark 7.00 Chris Evans 10.00 (FM) Robin Banks (AM) Graham Done 1.00pm (FM) Nick Abbot (AM) Nicky Horne 4.00 Russ 'n' Jono 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyle (AM) Calmin Jones 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am Richard Potter

TALK RADIO

6.30cm Bit Overton and Carol McGiften 9.00 Scott Chisbolm 12.00 Lorrane Kelly 2.00cm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Sportszone 10.00 Milte Allen 1.00cm Milte Dickin

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Haydn (Concerto for Two Horns in E flat); Rameau (Les Indes Galantes, Prologue); Debussy (Pantomirre)
9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday, Handel (Concerto Grosso in D, Op 6 No 9); Saint-Saëns

(Concarto Grosso in D. Op 6 No 9); Saint-Saêns (Symphony in F. Urbs Roma)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Geraint Lewis.
Mendeissorn (Mein Gott, Warum Hast Du Mich Verlassen); Haydn (Symphony No 92 in G. Oxford)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Walton

1.00pm News; Lunchtime Concert. Live from St. George's, Brandon Hill, Mikhall Kazakevich, plano

2.00 The BBC Archilve. Susan Sharpe talks to the cellist William Peeth about his career

4.00 Music Restored (if

4.45 Music Machine, with Tommy Pearson

5.00 The Night of the October Revolution. See Choice. John Simpson introduces an evening of live discussions and performances devoted to the Revolution of 1917

5.05 The Silver Age. Includes live performances of

5.05 The Silver Age, includes live performances of

poetry, music and literature by students from the St Petersburg Conservatoire and recordings by the St Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra 7.00 The October Revolution 1917. Orlando Figes traces the crucial events of that fateful year from these accounts St. Petersburg. sites around St Petersburg
Postcard from Petersburg. A snapshot of the
contemporary city—a drive down its most
famous street and still its central artery. Newsky

Prospekt (1/4)
7.35 Prokoflev. A specially recorded performance by :

(Europe only) 4.45 Off the Shett

the Kirov Orchestra, under Valery Gerglev, of the Cantata for the 20th Anniversary of the October

un Concerto (r) 4.00 Sally Peterson

Cantate for the 20th Anniversary or the October Revolution

8.30 Postcard from Petersburg. A visit to one of the blocks of communal flats (2/4)

8.35 The Terror. Gerard McBurney tells the story of the Soviet people under Statin's reign of terror, a time during which, historians believe, between eight and 20 million neoble met their deaths and 20 million people met their deaths 9.00 No Laughing Matter. A look at how the Russians

survived Communism and oppression: by telling jokes (String Quertet No 13)

9.40 Postcard from Peteraburg, Harnah Whitey
visits the Finland Station in St Peteraburg (3/4)
9.45 The Slege. John Barber tells the story of 900-day
slege of Leringrad during the Second World War,
sided by the testimony of some those who made.
It through

t through
10.00 Shostakovich. (Symphony No 13, Baba Yar)
11.00 Postcard from Petersburg. A visit to the

11.00 Posturate from Petersburg. A visit to the communal beths (A/A)
11.05 The Renamed City: St Petersburg. A look at the changing of the city's name and its identity over the years
11.30 St Petersburg Today, with Paul Alien. Featuring live performances from Russian tolk groups, short features and cleanitations of life from residents.

12.30am Composer of the Week: Glinka 1.30 Documenting the Blues (2/8) (r) 2.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

5.58am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News 6.10 Ferming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.45 Dear Bill (5/5) 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs. Sue Lawley's

castaway is composer and performer Richard Rodney Bennett (r) 9.45 Gerry's Bar. Comedy with Gerry Anderson (4/4)

9.45 Gerry's Barr. Comedy with Gerry Anderson (4/4)
10.00 (LW) An Act of Worship
10.00 (LW) An Act of Worship
10.00 (FM) News; Old Stubborn Guts. The American
writer and broadcaster Studis Terted unlocks his
personal archive of conversations with women
from all walks of life (5/5)
10.15 (LW) On This Day, with Geoffrey Wheeler
10.30 Woman's Hour, with Diana Medil
11.30 The Natural History Programme. A report from
the 49th meeting of the International Whaling
Commission in Mode Carlo
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker
12.25th The Food Programme (f) 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (f) 1.55 Shopping Forecast
2.00 News; Classic Sentat: The Leopard. John
Cifford's dramatisation of Glussppe Tomasi di
Lampedusa's Solian novel (f)

Cificrd's dramatisation of Glussope Tomasi di Lampedusa's Sicilian novel (f) 3.00 News; The Aftermoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor 4.00 News 4.05 Kateldoscope. Tim Marlow considers lan Gibson's new biography of Selvador Deli 4.45 Short Story: The Lady in the Desert, by Sylvia Brownings. Read by Adjoa Ardoh 5.00 PM, with Clare English and Jon Sopel 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 Str O'Clock News

6.30 Going Places. David Stafford takes a look at field

± 4

6.30 Going Places. David Stafford takes a look at field archery and explores the new BBC Visitor Experience in London
7.00 Neine 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week, with Daire Brehan
8.05 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby chairs a political debate from Wellington, Somerset with panellists lain Duncan-Smith, MP, Shadow Social Security Secretary, the Rt Rev Richard Hames, Bishop of Oxford, Ken Livingstone, MP, and Dr Jenry Tonge, Liberal Democrat spokesperson on international development
8.50 Law in Action. See Choice
9.15 Latter from America, by Alisteir Cooke
9.30 Kaleidoscope Feature: The Winter Wanderers. On the bicentenary of the birth of Franz Schubert, Dietrich Fisher-Dieskau and Brighte Fassbeender reflect on the sung cycle Winterreise 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Diving Best and the Butterfly, by Jean-Dominique Bauby (5/5) (r)
11.00 Week Ending. A satince look at the week's news, with Satly Grace, Dave Lamb and Sarah Parkinson
11.25 Fourth Column. Comic observations on the week
11.45 (LW) Today in Parkinson:

11.45 (LW) Today in Parlament 11.45 (PM) Back Here, Stephen Peny, returning to England after working in the US, compares life on either side of the Atlantic (r)

12,00 News 12,30am The Late Book The Hauming

of Hill House, by Shirley Jackson. Read by Emma Fielding (3/8) 12.48 (LW) Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 68.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6: LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE: MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.5em)... CLASSIC FM FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO: MW 1053, 1069. Television- and radio liatings compiled by Peler Deer, lan Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susen Thomson, Jame

may what 3

Just one chance? That would be a fine thing

orgive me, please, for returning to the subject of Carol. Vorderman for the second time in a fortnight, but even by her own standards of ubiquity this has been a truly remarkable week. Five instalments of Countdown. one lamentable Antique Inspectors, a so-so Mysteries with ... the starring role in This Is Your Life and a very short skirt and now this, a series they have the gall to call Just One Chance (BBCZ). When did Vorderman ever settle for just one of anything?

Anyway, here she was, joined by a rather hot looking Martin Bashir, promising us and a studio audience (always a worrying sign) a no-nonsense guide to schools. "Celebrating the best and investigating where things are going wrong, added Bashir, looking like a man who still hadn't worked out what he was doing there. I sat back and waited. Quite looking forward to it, if truth be told.

Like girls, proper jobs and hensive was the phrase "creamed pensions, knowing about educa- off". It's what happens to brighter tion is a sort of rite of passage and one that I have barely begun. I was hoping that Vorderman and Bashir might be offering a short cut, but alas not. In fact, it didn't take me very long to discover that. if I was looking to answers to questions such as how does anybody afford private education or what do you do if your local primary school is horrid. I'd be better off with Mysteries. Either I'd walked into the ad-

vanced education class ("sorry Miss, I was looking for elementary") or I was watching a programme that seemed reluctant to set out its own parameters. By a process of osmosis (the television screen being one of the best semipermeable membranes around), I worked out that we seemed to be concentrating exclusively on the state system. The nearest we got to an alternative to the local compre-

pupils apparently. What a hideous, judgmental, elitist concept, I thought - I'd like to know more about that.

But not on this programme - if was either The Ridings or computer revision aids with The Clever and Beautiful One. "Not surprisingly. I wanted to test computer maths," she purred. So why did she get a bunch of teenagers and educationists to do it for her? Pressure of work, I suppose.

n the subject of serial appearances, the actor Grant Masters needs a careful eye keeping on him. I know because something — probably the screeching tyres in the opening ten minutes — made me check what I wrote about Thief Takers (ITV) last year. I appear to have been impressed, just as I was eventually impressed again last night as the





Matthew Bond

noisy, high-gloss style made way for some serious substance delivered by David Joss Buckley's script. But wait, there was some-

thing else from last year.
"The scenes between Gary Mc-Donald and Grant Masters ... were exceptionally strong, with Masters wreaking maximum menace from his role as a Manchester drug dealer." So they were again last night, only this

ford's boss, Di Gien Matteo. Now, I don't want to get in the way of anybody's career, but I think baddies coming back as goodies one series later is not something to be encouraged. Keeping track of the plot of Thief Takers is quite

complicated enough as it is.
What's happened to Pooky
Quesnel, for instance? I know DI Scott's wife got shot, so that would explain why his office was empty, but nobody shot Pooky, aka DC Grace Harris, did they? I'm sure I'd have remembered. Or is she coming back as a baddie next time

Thankfully, the arrival (or should I say return) of Masters put a stop to such idle speculation. Within minutes he had injected homour, authority and energy into the production and we were moving forward again. The series still has the style of a feature film (there were echoes of White Heat. The

Long Good Friday and all sorts of things by John Carpenter), but last night, at least, it had a good enough script to make it impossible to dismiss it as a 1990s version of The Sweeney. Buckley's script worked both as simple cops and robbers but also intelligently explored the ever sensitive issue of race, with a story that involved an incompetent black policeman, a very nasty black villain and two black heroes, only one of whom made it to the final credits.

7 hile we're on the subject. I do wonder whether users of black street users of black street slang are wearying of its growing exploitation by television writers these days. "Respect to my motor. respect to me", was one of the duffer lines last night. So soon after Tony Marchant's Holding On. I think that's probably 'nuff respect to be going on with.

Finally: ER returned, not to

Channel 4 but to Sky One, no doubt causing a certain amount of consternation to the undished or uncabled among its fans. It also caused a bit of a flap around here. With Channel 4 not showing the latest series until 1998, how much of the plot should I give away? Do you want to know whether Doug (George Clooney) and Carol (Julianna Margulies) live happily. ever after, or don't you?

Thankfully, the first episode makes things easy, as it was a oneoff that was shown live (or live-ish. depending on who you believe) in America a few weeks ago, but was obviously a recording in this country. Using a fly-on-the-wall documentary as the excuse for flooding the ER with cameras, it was a technical and artistic triumph, but one which didn't move the running storylines along much. All I can say about Doug and Carol is ... it's looking

BBC1 6.00am Business Breekfast (94417) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (82349163) 9.05 Can't Cook, Wen't Cook (r) (3424847)

9.30 Style Challenge (3623417) 9.55 Kilroy (1) (5802304) 10.35 Change That (8956144)

11.00 News (T) and weather (7338540) 11.05 The Really Useful Show (1) (7378366) 11.35 Room for Improvement (3386637)

12.00 News (T) and weather (8728989) 12.05pm Call My Bluff (7491366) 12.35 Going for a Song (5173927)

1.00 News (1) and weather (77144) 1.30 Regional News and weather (73215415). 1.40 The Weather Show (87436958)

1.45 Neighbours (T) (7.1931927) 2.10 Quincy (r) (8953873). 3.00 Through the Keyhole Last in series (1105250)

3.25 The Really Useful Show (4562366) 3.30 Piaydays (8677453) 3.50 Dear Mr Barker (8657415) 4.05 The: All New Popeye Show (1523231) 4.10 Cesper (6834453) 4.35 Record Breakers (8489618) 5.00 Newsround (1) (2753057) 5.10 Blue Peter

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (650873) 6.00 News (1) and weather (279) 6.30 Regional News (T) (231) 7.00 Weekend Watchdog Robinson (1) (7250)

7.30 Top of the Pope (1) (415) 8.00 999 Lifesawers Why do more than 1,000. young drivers lose their lives in road accidents every year? (1) (3298)

8.30 Keeping Up Appearances Comedy, starring Patricla Routledge and Clive Swift (r) (T) (2705)

9.00 News (T) and weather (1057)

9.30 Dangerfield: Contact A teenager is rushed to hospital after collecting in a police cell, and Ecstesy tablets found during a search seem the obvious cause. However, certain tall tale signs show up. during Paul's treatment that point to a deadler melaise (f) (525873)

The Wogan Years Terry 4,500 guests on his long-running chat show, including memorable encounters with James Stewart. Sean Connery, Roger Moore, Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau. (T) (767724) WALES: 10.20 Satellite City (767724) 19.50 The Wogan Years. (898521). 11.20. Fill M. Kelly's Years (828521) 11.20 FiLM: Keliv's Without a Face (4170545) 2.50 News headlines and weather (3403212)

10.50 Ketty's Heroes (1970) starring Clini Eastwood, Telly Savalas, Donald Sutherland and Harry Dean Stanton: artime romp. American soldiers kidnep a German officer and inadvertently gold. Directed by Brian G. Hutton (T)

1.10em Flend Without a Face (1957, b/w) Sci-fi horror, starting Marshall Thompson, Terence Kilburn and Kim Parker. Directed by Arthur Crabbee (1) (9911274) 2.20 Weather (8488545)

VideoPhus+ and the Video PlusCodes The numbers next to sech TV programme isting are Video PlusCode numbers, which issing are video Pruscode." numbers, when allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPtus+" handest. Tap in the Video PtusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoptus+ (""), Ptuscode ("") and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gernstay Development Ltd.

BBC2 6.60am Modelling in the Long Term (1) 6.30 France in the Viewfinder

7.00 See Hear Breakfast New signing) (9258724) 7.15 Teletubbles (r) (6561144) 7.40 Smurfs' Adventures (r) (4938811) 8.05 Smart (r) (T) (7690811) 8.30 William's Wish Wellingtons (2238163) 8.35 Wishing (r)

(7063231) 8.45 Harry and the Hendersons (f) (1) (9250231) 9.10 Music Makers (7719892) 9.30 Watch (8279637) 9.45 Come Outside (8267892) 10.00 Teletubbies (69637) 10.30 Look and Read (7171076) 10.50 The Art

12.00 Scene (T) (48569) 12.30pm Working Lunch (68811) 1.00 The Little Polar Bear (r) (55659502) 1.05 Pingu (r) (55658873) 1.10 The Countryside Hour (7287415)



The dysfunctional Simpsons (6.00)

psons Otto the school bus driver loses his job but Bart takes pity on

The Peacemaker (810521)

8.30 Ground Force A Manchester town house garden gets a brick-paved countyard courtesy of Alan Titchmarsh and the team

9.30 Strooting Stars Robbie Coltrage, David Hamilton, Sue Cook and Denise Van Outen join regulars Ulrika Jonsson and Mark Lamair for the absolutely crackers

12.45am Sightly Scarlet (1956, b/w) with John Payne and Arlene Dahl. A comedy adventure about a pair of burglars who outwit a nasty gang boss. Directed by Altan Dwan (144651)

2.25 Weather (8485458)

(7184540) 11.10 Landmarks (1) (5949540) 11.30 English File (3892)

2.10 Grand Prix Snooker and Racing from Newbury David Vine introduces coverage of the quarter-finals in Bournemouth, and Julian Wilson the 2.40, 3.10 and 3.40 races from Newbury (94186705)



him because he's a fellow heavy metal fan. Spinal Tap guest (T) (880960) 6.25 Star Trek (r) (T) (414705)

7.30 Motormonth Interviews with British Rally Blundell on Indy Cars. Last in series (647) 8.00 The Big Catch Liam Dale travels across Russia on the trail of the world's largest sturgeon. Last in series (1) (4540)

9.00 Red Dwerf Kochanski transports the crew to Pride and Prejudice world (r) (T)

game show (T) (55347) .

Heve I Got News for You A new series of the topical comedy quiz (49298) followed by Video Nation Shorts (724279)

10.30 Newsmight (1) (921453) .11.15 Grand Prix Snooker Highlights from the last quarter-finals (231786)

HTV6.00em GMTV (4879386) 9.25 Supermarket Sweep (T) (3413231) 9.55 Regional News (T) (4531106)

10.00 The Time, the Place (56163) 10.30 This Morning (1) (77295873) 12.20pm Regional News (8717873) 12.30 News (1) and weather (5169724)

12.55 Moneyspinners New series about collectors and collecting (T) (5144415) 1.25 Home and Away (T) (76504502) 1.50 Murder, She Wrote (r) (9656076)

2.49 Crimestoppers (3307927) 2.50 Yan Can Cook: The Best of China (9997182). 3.20 News (T) (4558163) 3:25 Regional News (T) (4557434)

3.30 Jays' World (8671095) 3.40 Titch (9164368) 3.50 Oscar and Friends (9153250) 4.00 Roger and the Rottentrolls (T) (8066415) 4.15 Best of Hey Arrold! (6828892) 4.40 Fun House (1) (2995304)

5.10 A Country Practice (3543095) 5.40 News (T) and weather (833279) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (884786) 6.25 HTV Weather (156540) 6.30 Regional News (1) (927)

7.00 Bruce's Price is Right (1) (9618) 7.30 Coronation Street Sally uses Chris's shoulder to cry on (T) (811) 8.00 The Bill: Shades of Grey When two

children are snatched from school, their mother assumes their father is trying to take them back to Pakistan (1) (8366) 8,30 Strange But True? Case studies in displayed psychic powers (1) (7873)



Helen Baxendale stars (9.00pm)

An Unsuitable Job for a Woman A young woman inherits a private detective agency and has to investigate an apparent suicide. With Helen Baxendale (1) (3927)

10.00 News (T) and weather (36724) 10.30 Regional News (305521)

10.40 Midnight Express (1978) with Brad Davis, Bo Hopkins and John Hurt. Based on the true story of a young American, arrested in Islanbul after trying to smuggle hashish out of Turkey. Directed by Alan Parker (T) (62947873)

1.00 The Paul Ross Show (26767) 2:30 Thrilliciti (1986) with Robin Ward, Gina Massey and Laura Robinson. While investigating the cleath of her sister, a woman discovers she had developed a slobon of vast sums of corporate money.

Directed by Anthony D'Andrea (93941) 4.00 Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (r) (2483767)

4.35 Coach (r) (56876835) 5.00 Coronation Street (r) (1) (59274)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.54pm Air Watch (42143705) 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (5144415) 2.50-3.20 Our House (9997182) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (3543095)

5,59-6.00 Air Watch (539724) 6.25-7.00 Central News (951811) 10.40 Central Weekend Live (95120618) 12.15am Campus Cops (22187)

12.45 Sound Bites (1545019) 2.30 The LADS (49458) 3.00 Box Office America (87182477)

3.25 Baywatch (8992632) 4.15 Central Jobfinder '97 (6925038) 5.20 Asian Eye (7757090)

*** WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 litumina 12.55 Home and Away (5144415) 1.25 Spill the Beans (46232927) 1.55 Westcountry Update (71906231) 2.25-3.20 Blue Heelers (8967076) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (3543095)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (47328) MERIDIAN

As HTV West except: 12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (5144415) 1.50 Look and Cook (71907960) 2.20-3.20 Highway to Heaven (7604540) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (3543095) 6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (47328) 10.30 Meddian News and Weather (396873) 10.45 Film: Dirty Dancing (78238637) 12.35am Alfred Hitchcock Presents

5.00 Freescreen (59274) ANGLIA

As HTV West except: 12.19pm Angila Air Watch (8736908)

(2961926)

12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (5144415) **in of Colour (71907960)** 2.20-3.20 Highway to Heaven (7604540) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (3543095) 6.23 Anglia Weather (164569) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (951811) 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (711705)

10.30 Anglia News Extra (12144) 11.00 Film: Burglar (1986). A thriller staming Robin Ward, directed by Anthony D'Andrea (93328)

S4C . Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (90095) 9.00 Ysgolion (344182) 11.30 Scrimpers (8960) 12.00 Sesame Street (33637) 12.30pm Ricki Lake (60279) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (32089328) 1.15 Slot Syniadzu Sali (3200811) 1.30 Travelog Traks (73222705) 1.45 Film: in Old Chicago (14744328) 3.30 A Change of Scene (705) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (540) 4.30 The Living Sea (724) 5.00 5 Pump (4095705) 5.15 Maynd Drot Drot (2758502) (4095705) 5.15 Mynd Drot Drot (2758502) 5.30 Coundown (796) 6.00 Newyddion (253892) 6.10 Heno (419250) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (554453) 7.25 Y Sioe Gelf (185750) 8.00 Yma Mae 'Nghan (6908) 8.30 Newyddion (5415) 9.00 Rhwng Duw a Dyn (1569) 10.00 Brookside (237366) 10.35 Friends (822347) 11.05 Rory Bremner — Who Else? (25206) 11.45 King of the Hill (346637) 12.15am TFI Friday (3043309) 1.20 Film: The Young Master (897767) 3.15 Film: Circumstantial Evidence (3376477)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (95637) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (94811) 9.00 Schools: Off Limits (3485458) 9.25 Schools at Work (3298651) 9.30 Eureka! (8231477) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (6703854) 10.02 Lost Animals (3019090) 10.10 TVM (2001125) 10.25 Caraidean (2099380) 19.40 Topl (7157496) 11.00

Robert Burns (6970583) 11.15 Stage One (63593748) 11.30 Scrimpers (r) (T) (8960) 12.00 Sesame Street (33637) 12.30pm Light Lunch (67095) 1.30 An Artist Looks at Churches

(73231453) 1.40 Suez (1938, b/w) Tyrone Power stars as the 19th-century French engineer who realises the dream of linking the Red Sea

and the Mediterranean: With Loretta Young. Directed by Alian Dwan, Otto Brower and Stanley Logan (1) (75463231) 3.30 Dan Pearson: Routes Around the World (f) (T) (705) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (540) 4.30 Countdown (T) (8473057) 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (8392786) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (796)

6.00 TFI Friday The guests include Lennox Lewis and Ronnie Corbett (78298) 7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (187569) 7.55 The Political Slot (206237)

8.00 Dan Pearson; Routes Around the World Dan arrives in Connecticut to discover whether America has found a nerdening style of its own (T) (6908)

8.30 Brookside How will Cassie react to Mick changing his story? (T) (5415) 9.00 Friends: The One Without the Ski Trip Ross and Rachel are avoiding each other and force the rest of the gang to take sides (T) (272665)

9.35 Cybill: The Piano Cybill is forced to ask for the help of Dr Dick's new wife (T)

10.00 Frasier: The Unnatural Frasier tries to keep Frederick from realising he is a less than perfect father (T) (3436)



Bremner, or Blair? (10.30pm)

10.30 Rory Bremner ... Who Else? Bremner, with John Bird, John Fortune and a host of satirical shows (1) (932569)

11.10 King of the Hill: King of the Ant Hill (T) 11.40 TFI Friday (r) (802724)

12.45em The Young Master (1987) Kung fu comedy written by, directed by and sterring Jackie Chan (612477)

2.40 Circumstantial Evidence (1945, b/w)
Melodrama starring Michael O'Shee as a
man wongly accused of murder (T) (7533670) 3.55 The Beat Manifesto (96803729)

4.15 Takeover TV (r) (51909835)

4.50 Captain Butler: Kiss Me Harder (r) (1)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE Charmel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound:

7,02 and 7.20 MHz 6.00am 5 News Early (2587231) 7,30 Milkshake (7517328) 7,35 USA High (6617750) 8,00 Havakazoo (8998927)

8.30 WideWorld (8997298) 9.00 Espresso (5160279)

10.00 Exclusive (r) (6809502) 10.30 Treasure Islands (r) (T) (8977434) 11.00 Leeza (4763237) 11.50 Double Espresso

(44885250) 12.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (8968786) 12.30pm Family Atlairs (r) (T) (9568647) 1.00 5 News Update (1) (99751811) 1.05 Sunset Beach (1) (1918163) 2.00 5's

Company (4202569) 3.30 The Roman Spring of Mrs Stone (1961) starring Warren Beatty, Vivien Leigh and Lotte Lenya. A fading actress Leigh and Lotte Lenya. A fading actress takes up with a gigolo. Directed by Jose Quintero (2598347)

(8964250) 6.00 100 Per Cent Game show without the host (8961163)

5.30 Whittle Quiz presented by Tim Vine (1)

6.30 Family Affairs Jamie comes to Maria's rescue, Mel makes a decision concerning her career (T) (8952415) 7.00 Name That Tune Musical game show

(6719705)

7.30 Exclusive Showbiz round up with Julia Bradbury and Matthew Wright (8981927) 8.00 Jenny Eclair Squats Comedy show with the acerbic comedian (6728453) 8.30 5 News (T) (6707960)



Lana, Kate and Amy (9.00pm)

9.00 British Fashion Awards Coverage of the annual awards ceremony, from the Albert Hall, London presented by Kirsty

Young (6306569) 10.30 La Femme Nikita: Treason There is a suspicion of treachery in the ranks 11,25 Heavenly Bodies (1984) The world's

"first aerobics musical", with Cynthia Dale, Richard Rebiere and Laura Henry. Directed by Lawrence Dale (6026182) 1.15am Beach Red (1967) Military drama

stairing and directed by Cornel Wilde.
Also with Rip Torn, Patrick Wolfe and Burr DeBenning (1170835) 3.10 All My Sons (1986) with James Writimore, Michael Learned and Aidan Quinn. Adaptation of Arthur Miller's play. Directed by Jack O'Brien (28692699)

CHALLENGE TV

UK LIVING

5.20 The Road (82637632)

5.30 100 Per Cent (5118816)

SATELLITE AND CABLE



(4019818) 12.30pm Familios (2165/05)
1.00 Bind Dare (2154990) 2.00 Upstaks,
Downstaks (3578908) 3.00 The
Grumbleweeds Redio Show (5320453) 3.30
A First Romence (5822298) 4.00 Fortune
Hunter (3321811) 5.00 Howel Five-0
(6311705) 8.00 Families (5811182) 6.30
Coronation St (5802454) 7.00 Bind Date
15827721 8.00 Extra binate (153144)

(23927) 8.00 Alactim: The Series (27788) 10.00 Boys Meets World (53837) 10.30 Wonder Years (27837) 11.00 Brothely Love (85705) 11.30 New Doug (87434) 12.00 Timon and Pumbas (18889) 12.30pm Wirnie the Pooh (38231) 1.00 Sesams Street (35795) 2.00 Amacing Animals (9434) 2.30 Little Mermeld (7182) 3.00 Tale Soln (8569) 3.30 Goof Troop (8227) 4.00 Timon and Pumbas (8434) 4.30 Fee28s (4618) 5.00 Brand Spanking New Doug (7105) 5.30 Pepper Ann (8296) 6.00 Nightmare Ned (8811) 6.30 Smort Guy

(9163) 7.00 Wayne Manfesto (3250) 7.30 FILM: The Big Green (1995) (65366) 9.00 Second Noah (26811) 10.00 Cose

6.00mm Delty (8326724) 6.30 Billy the Cal (2722182) 7.00 Principho (8765453) 7.30 Power Rangers Zeo (674960) 8.00 Beetleborgs (1747908) 8.30 Masked Rider (1746279) 9.00 X Men (2723911) 11.00 Sweet Velley High (676090) 12.00 Aca Venture (1740095) 12.30pm Casper (5002861) 1.00 The Tick (6764724) 1.30 From Men (17470787) 2.00 Fermiste Four ron Man (1742732) 2,00 Fertische Fou (4439347) 2,30 Power Rengers Zeo (701505) 3,00 Beatleborgs (444182) 3,30 Messled Rider (7010540) 4,00 Acs Ventum (7006347) 4,30 Casper (7095231) 5,00 The Tick (4458827) 5,30 X Men (7019811) 6,00 Spidemen (701674) 5,30 Secot Velley High (7007076) 7,40 Casper (450827) 5,00 Casper (450827) 6,00 Casper (450827) 6,30 Secot Velley High (7007076) 7,40 Casper (450827) 6,00 Cas

man (11075) ft.30 Bots Master (10347) 9.00 Art. Attack (34827) 9.30 Earthworm Jim (47929) 10.00 Gravedale High (59811) 10.39 Resh Gordon (23811) 11.00 Crospy

Crawlers (89279) 11.30 Gigentor (90908) 12.00 Gravidate High (14163) 12.30 pm Bots Mester (41705) 1.00 Batman (65950) 1.30 East the Cat (40076) 2.00 Creepy Crawlers (2008) 2.30 Flash Gordon (7326) 3.00 Sonit: (1415) 3.30 Eartworm (2873; 4.00 Dennis the Menace (1906) 4.30 Art Amack (1732) 5.00 Close

6.00am Hero Turties (62386) 6.30 Hero Turties (38705) 7.00 Bruno the Kid (69163) 7.30 Bruno the Kid (88288) 8.00 Hey Amold (73882) 8.30 Hey Amold (72163) 9.00 Rugrats (63415) 9.30 Rugrats (43255) 10.00 Doug (29057) 10.30 Doug (92927) 11.00 Apaint Real Monsters (44705) 11.30 Asahhi Real Monsters (45434) 12.00 Rocko (83279) 12.30pm Rocko (43291) 1.00

2.30 Swen's Crossing (9057278) 3.00 No Naked Flame (9088989) 3.30 Fleady or Not (9052724) 4.00 Saved by the Bell (9031231) (A30 USA High (607/15) 5.00 Hangime (688434) 5.30 Sweet Valley High (905195) 6.00 Baset (905896) 6.30 Naction (903296) 7.30 Hangtime (900399) 7.30 USA High (6038144) 8.00 Close BRAVO

8.00cm The A-Team (9384502) 9.00 Come 5.00 The A-Team (5705800) PARAMOUNT COMEDY

Cycle (6705) 8.00 Cheers (64569) 8.30 Taza (8067) 10.00 Monty Python's Plying Circus (84286) 11.00 Paramount Presents (290881) 11.25 Robin (915182) 11.30 Nightstand (68669) 12.00 Soap (23212) 12.30em Pig Sty (84825) 1.00 Enlertannesi UK (40651) 1.30 Taza (83800) 2.00 Roseanne (1155380) 2.25 Robin (7412729) 2.30 Elen (97657) 3.00 Cycle (37187) 3.50 Cheers (11212) 4.00 Close

8.00pm Softlings (6908163) 8.00 FILM: Taracticle (1955) [51439057] 10.36 World of Hermer (9008105) 11.00 Friday the 13th (1241237) 12.00 Softlings (9581545) 1.00am The Twilight Zone (1004941) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected (7512361) 2.00 Darl Stactown (844223) 2.30 New Altred Hitchcock (8352900) 3.00 Friday the 13th 1596729 4.00 Close HOME & LEISURE

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Lonely Planet (1158415) 5.00 Amoni Warriors (906908) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (906:569) 6.00 Hunters (4735250) 7.00 Arthur C. Clarke's Mysterious World (9078144) 7.30 Disanter (9041618) 8.00 Ultimate Guide (9397076) 9.00 New Dote-tives (6300540) 10.00 Modical Detectives (1982/24) 11.00 Frepower 2000 (64750%) 12.00 Fightline (2420922) 12.30am Justo Files (8782038) 1.00 Disaster (791894) Files (8782038) 1.00 Disaster (7918941) 1.30 Beyond 2000 (6896632) 2.00 Close

THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm The Great Days of the Century (2516329) 5.00 History Encore (9511298) 7.00 Bography Jacqueline Onassis (7305845) 8.00 Close

Win with Prize Time Iwize an hour 5,00pm Cross Wire (6960) 5,30 Sey the Word (1144) 8,00 Family Fortunes (8057) 6,30 Catchphrase (2637) 7,15 The 564,000 Cuestion (586705) 8,00 Spit Second (405908) 8,30 Move on Up (1279) 9,15 Winner Talet All (147325) 10,00 Treasure Hunt (24124) 11,15 Winnie (150852) 12,00 Say the Wood (45458) 12,30em Hart to Hart (87645) 1,30 The Big Valley (22090) 2,30 Big Brother Jake (42106) 9,000 My Two Dods (91309) 3,30 Where I Live (33458) 4,00 Explorer (75583) 8,00 Shopping (75019)

6.00am Lucky Ladders 6.35 Lingo 7.00
Try Living 9.00 I Dream of Jeannile 9.30
The Gordon Effort Show 10.10 Jerry
Springer 11.00 The Young and the Pestless
11.50 Mystenes. Magic and Miracles
12.20pm Why Me7 12.50 Robinda 1.40
Tempest 2.30 Cheap Ortic 2.00 Live at
Time 4.05 Jerry Springer 5.00 Richards
5.50 Licity Ladders 6.25 The Heat is On
7.00 Hearts Alire 7.30 Mystenes. Magic and
Miracles 8.00 Autemain Jurisses 9.00 FR Mire
Heart of 2 Child 11.00 The Snay See Files Heart of a Child 11.00 The Spicy Sex Files 12.00 Close

7.00em Jaagran 7.30 Film Deexans 8.00 Rashat 8.30 Positive Health Show 9.00 Yaadon Ki Baraat 9.30 Ten Bhi Chup Men Bhi Chup 10.00 Dashi 11.00 Zake Ka Salar 11.30 Healthan 13.00 Adda 2 Adda 11.30 Hassetain 12.00 Andaz 12.30pm Razhel 1.00 FILM 4.00 ZEE Zone Presents 4.05 Kamal Kombination 4.30 Khei Time 5.00 Zone Time 5.25 Fki 6.00 Churki Baja ke 6.30 ZEE and You 7.00 kke Pe lika 7.30 Mast Mast Hai Zindagi 8,00 News and Euronews 8.30 Parampara 9,00 Filhi: DB Hat Ke Mante Nahin 12,00 Close

The 24 hour music channel, includes news, reviews, live concern toptage, inter-views and the letest music video charts

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see Vision. published on Saturday

SKY 1

8.00am Morrang Gosy (735705) 9.00 Regis and Kathe Lea (72298) 10.00 Another-World (31368) 91.00 Days of Our-Lives (11503) 92.00 Opanh Winfay 937960 1.00pm Geratico (86365) 2.00 Sally Jessy Design Common Common (11504) 1 Raphael (1729) 3.00 Jermy Jones (24694) 4.00 Optoh Wirdrey (2259) 5.00 Sax Trait The Next Generation (1095) 6.00 Real TV (4057) 6.30 Married, with Children (2637) 7.00 The Simpanns (2724) 7.30 MrA*S*H [7521] 8.00 Highlander (35821) 9.00 Walter, Texas Ranger (22057) 10.00 Edni Time (72549 10.30 Stand and Colour (58960) 11.007 Star Trak. The Next Genera-tion (32095) 12.00. Late Show (93632)

SKY NEWS

8.00am The Guru (1968) (53786) 8.00 The Belloy (1960) (9512205) 8.15 Suspens of the Meart (1983) (55818549) 11.00 Cutthrost behand (1985) (17800163) 1.05pm The Guru (1969) (8808820) 3.00 The Frisco ICH (1979) (24811) 5.00 Shatlavid Vous (1984) (54144) 7.00 Cutthrost Ichnel (1985) (3279) 8.00 Devive Montages (1985) 777206392) 10297583) 3.40 Madoons: lon

THE MOVIE CHANNEL 3.00am inhumeralde: The Movie (1985) 6:328) 8.00 Joan of Paris (1962) (9982) 10.00 Crack Up (1946) (38381) 12.00 II: Turne from Ooter Space II (1996) 89415) 2.00pm With Honours (1994) 47369 4.00 Inhomomolder The Movie 47399 4300 lebronepolds; The Movie 1980, (4589) 4.000 Blenkman (1994) 57969 7.30 UK Top 10 (2007) 8.00 it 2004 from Outer Space if (1996) 29347) 10.00 Despendo (1995) (67502) 21.45 Toe Zeen (1995) (557765) 1.25mm lack Read: Opi af Our Own (1995) 236767) 3.00 Daty Wes

SKY MOVIES GOLD

8.00pm WCW Nitro [7334689] 9.00 Clesh of the Tilans (1981) (73347078) 11.00 Cool Breeze-(1972) (54701395) 1.00am He Knows You're Alono (1980) 1.00am He Knows You're Alono (1980) SKY SPORTS 1

7.00cm Sports Centre (61521) 7.30 Wies-ting (17540) 8.30 Sports Centre (74521) 8.00 Recing News (6873) 8.30 Agrobics (45273) 10.00 Trans World Sport (79540) 11.00 Sports Unirolad (60078) 12.00 Asag "s (66857) 12.30pen inside the PGA Tout (12278) 1.00 Sportsh Primers Liga (40008) 4.00 Sportsh Trans (8908) 4.00 Asg' '-s (85837). 12.30pm inside the PGA Tour (12278) 1.00 Spanish Primara Lya (2308) 3.00 Formula Taree (35008) 4.00 Powerboat and Jetsic World (8382) 4.30 Rugby Club (75540) 6.00 Sports Centre (20288) 7.00 Hgb 5 (5388) 7.30 World Sport Special (5703) 3.00 Trans World Sport Special (5703) 3.00 Trans World Sport (37305) 2.00 NHz. Powerweek (9388) 10.00 Sports Centre (6328) 11.00 Hold the Back Page (8768) 12.00 Sports Centre (57684) 1.00pm Wessling (56274) 3.00 Fulbol Mandal (39545) 3.30 Hgh 5 (13670) 4.00 Hold the Back Page (5767) 5.00 Formula Three (563651)

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00am Aerobics. (2245927) 7.30 Sports Certen (2224434) 8.00 Racing Navan (9637518) 8.30 Tight Linus (9013163) 9.20 Rugby Club (6458182) 11.00 Formula: Three (2233182) 12.00 Powerbusts (9360705) 12.30pm Footbel Lasque Review (2765163) 1.00 Trans World Sport (2765163) 2.00 Deris PDC Teera Compailaton — Live (26371095) E.00 World Sport (948581) 6.50 Powerbusts (7014811) 8.00 Saling (7011724) 8.30 Inside the Sardor FGA Tour. (7002078) 7.00 Deris — Live (743752) 10.00 Gott Las Vegas Instaltional (262082) 12.00 Inside the Darts — Like (7/43/32) 10.00 coil: Eas ver-pos Invitational (252392) 12,00 inside the Serior PGA Tour (45/2105) 12.30 in Ear-enne Sport (7896125) 1.00 Trans World Sport (5080889) 2.00 Sports: Centre (839035) 8.00 Golf: Lips Vegas Invitational

SKY SPORTS 3 12.00pm Rebei Sports (905/79827) 1.00
Tight Lines (165/79847) 2.00 Bobby Cherton's Football Scrapbook (84791989) 3.30 V-Mex (97917724) 4.00 Watersports World (23469724) 6.00 Futbof Mundial (85/79207) 5.30 Hgb 5 (97978095) 6.00 NHL Powerweek (7/524861) 7.00 Footbalt Descript with Mindratus Forest — Live

EUROSPORT 7.30em Motors Magazarie (19905) 8.30
7.30em Motors Magazarie (19905) 8.30
7.30em World Cup Parallel Statom — Live (83811) 9.30 The Beat Five IndyCar Races (2408) 11.00 Stding: World Cup (19811) 12.30em International Motorsport Magazine (72273) 1.30 Europeen Cups (83990) 3.00 Stding: World Cup (43076) 4.00
Tearnis: Europear Open — Live (3709989) 9.00 Tractor Pulling (88837) 10.00 Track Racing Tires (81724) 11.00 Jump the Busi (56540) 11.30 Boung: Westelle v Wilson (84057) 1.30em Cose UK GOLD

7.00em Worzel Gurmfidge (\$782837) 7.35 Neighbours (8537075) 2.09 Crossroads (9490729) 8.25 EastEnders (3465163) 9.00 Tre, 98 (1944569) 9.30 Howards Way (4725873) 10.00 Blass This House (8439347) 10.30 The Sullivers (1933453) 11.00 Boon (845690) 12.00 Crossroads (57941085). 12.25pm Neighbours (579441862) 12.55 EastEnders (1540095) 1 sp. let. 79.4H (8909502) 2.10 Keepong Up 1.30 H-Da-Hi (800802) 2-10 Keping Up Appearances (206279) 2-50 Are You Beng Server? (4977057) 3.30 The BB 8(3429) 4.00 Casually (8258-231) 5.05 EastEndors (9321521) 5.40 Bob's Full House (7652:38) 9.25 That's Strombusiness (7570453) 7.00 II An't Helf-Hol, Num. (7725250) 7.45 Brush Strokes ESI, MUTH (T-ESI) 7-2 and 1-2 and 1-2

GRANADA PLUS 6.00mm El in Focus (4652960) 7.00 Coronation St (6644795) 7.30 Families (565652) 8.00 Sunories Surprise (6691057) 9.00 Upsteirs, Downstein (7930927) 10.00 Fortune Hunter (6552705) 11.00 Heavalf FMs-O (5972569) 12.00 Coronation St Bruce Dern and Madeleine Stowe (Sky Movies, 9.00pm)

FOX KIDS NETWORK (1537724) 8.00 Fortune Hunter (1513144) 9.00 Coronation St (3327095) 9.30 The Cornections (2188569) 10.00 Hawaii Five-O (1536095) 11.00 Close 6.00em Dumbo (41366) 6.30 Lemb Chip (38057) 7.00 Aladdin The Series (80415) 7.30 Quack Pack (72250) 8.00 Dinosaurs (83927) 8.00 Aladdin: The Series (27786)

> TCC 6,00mm Hapipily Ever After (47540) B.30 Boobby's World (35231) 7.00 Spirou (73989) 7,30 Denns the Menace (55724) 8.00 Barman (11076) 8.30 Bots Master (10347) 9.00

CARTOON NETWORK

NICKELODEON

TROUBLE 12.00pm Swen's Crossing (1919873) 12.30 Ready or Not (4721057) 1.00 Madis-on (6452144) 1.30 Sweet Valley High (4720336) 2.00 Saved by the Bell (9092182)

Story (\$304366) 10.00 Tour of Duty (\$307453) 11.00 FILM: Cathy (1973) (\$377328) 12.50em Lesie Nielson's Unbelanced World (5211496) 1.00 Crane Story 87632) 2.00 Tour of Duty (3974941) 3.00 Mr. Coffy (1973) (8650729) 4.50 Lecte

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

1586729) 4.00 Close

9.00am Simply Pairong (1935811) 9.30 Gardeners' Deny (4723415) 10.00 The Great Gardering Ptot (9437989) 10.30 New Yankee Workshop (1931095) 11.00 Rex Hurt's Fishing Adventures (1167163) 11.30 Hometime (1168692) 12.00 Garden Parly (1922347) 12.30pm Two's Country (1777231) 1.00 Sweet Things (6465618) 1.30 Home Again (4726502) 2.00 Furmure to Go (9072328) 2.30 These Four Walks (9053453) 3.00 Two's Country (9084163) (9053453) 3.80 Two's Country (9084163) 3.30 This Old House with Steve and North

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm Caro Urveled (4433163) 7.30 Gauchos (7056860) 8.00 Bandis of Berch Forest (7353618) 9.00 Volcano (7366182) 10.00 Island of the Squares (7375569) 11.00 Wildli Life Adventures: Survival of the Yellowstone Wolf (6741873) 12.00 Island of

VH-1



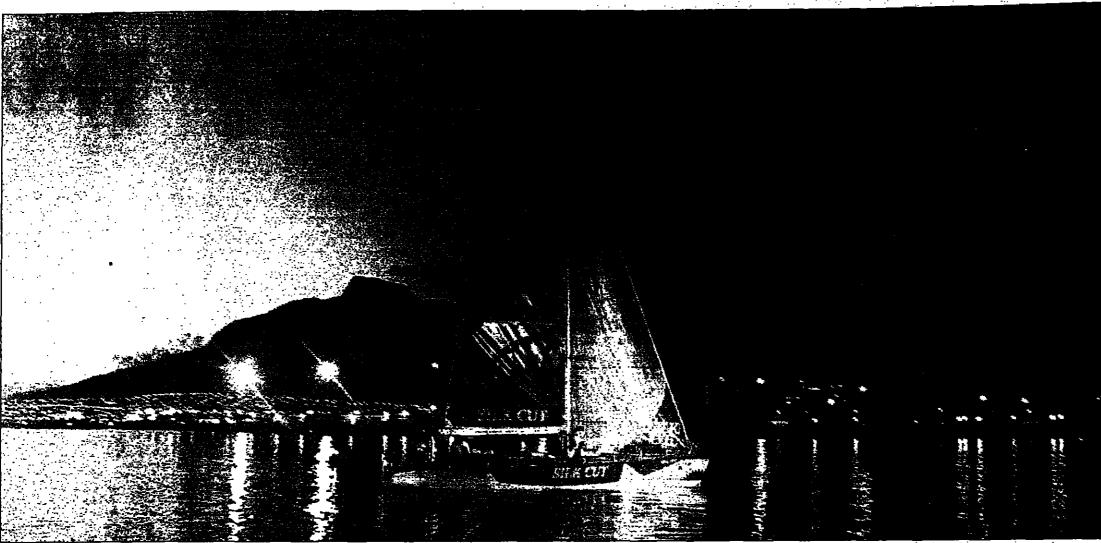
CRICKET 45 Warwickshire celebrate Lara's return

TENNIS 46 Henman pays for early follies

in Stuttgart



FRIDAY OCTOBER 24 1997



Dawn run: Silk Cut, skippered by Lawrie Smith, crosses the line under the shadow of Table Mountain after finishing fourth in the first leg of the Whitbread Round The World Race early yesterday

Schumacher and Villeneuve determined to steer clear of controversy

Grand prix rivals apply the brakes

blinked behind his granny glasses as a sudden surge signalled the belated arrival of Michael Schumacher at the circuit here yesterday afternoon. It was difficult to detect whether he was blinded by the incessant flashlights or bemused by the chaotic nature of the duel for the Formula One world championship.

Schumacher had been de layed at Cologne airport and barely had time to deposit his mongrel dog with a Ferrari aide before he was ushered into an airless room to conduct the tiresome chore of preliminary psychological sparring in the build up to the European Grand Prix. Villeneuve adopt-

TIMES

CROSSWORD

ence as panic set in around

The German was serene, but in his haste he put on the wrong T-shirt, an unprepossessing black number that lacked the critical element of his cigarette sponsor's logo. Oblivious to the heretical aspect of the oversight, he smiled broadly and shook the Canadian by the hand. The swea flecked cameramen, who had amused themselves by scuffling among themselves, went

predictably berserk. Time was frozen for fully 15 seconds before someone in the crowd threw Schumacher the politically incorrect shirt that helps fund his £20 million

TWO

salary. He shrugged, screwed it into a ball, and put it on his lap as he sat down to face the fortnightly trial by inanity.

Formula One prides itself on its machismo culture, but this was closer in spirit to the Marx Brothers than Mad Max. The lights went out intermittently and the sound system spluttered into life on occasionally. Life, in the land of mañana, was proceeding so normally that, outside, they were blithely burning the remains of last week's rubbish on the inside of the Ayrton

Senna Curve. Separated by a single championship point, after the empty gesture of Villeneuve's defiance of disqualification from the Japanese Grand Prix, they were united by the need to project an image of assurance. Each smiled selfconsciously, like a job applicant facing an employment panel. They were gracious and generous. In short, they were behaving entirely out of char-

The watching world, conditioned by reminders of Schumacher's brutally convenient collision with Damon Hill when the title was at stake in Adelaide in 1994, expects a cross between a gang fight and a race between dodgem cars here on Sunday. The winner will, in deference to the

FROM MICHAEL CALVIN IN JEREZ

listen to the rivals yesterday. all is sweetness and light. "It's fun, being on the edge like this," Villeneuve, who had evidently had his roots retouched for the occasion, said. "The stakes are high. The pressure is high. In three days here the whole season's work goes on the line. You do a wnoie comes down to this. I can't

wait for it." Schumacher was also in Butlins Redcoat mode, "I hope we will both be on the front row and that we will be able to have our own race," he said. "It will be good for the fans, It is what everyone wants to see. I want it to be a straightforward fight between Jacques and me. I want it to be open

Of course, the façade of fun, fun, fun could not be sustained. There was the occa-

sional edge to their self-promotional ramblings, pecially when Schumacher denied that Eddie Irvine, his voluble Ferrari team-mate, had eased his path to victory at Suzuka by deliberately block-

ing Villeneuve.

The Canadian could not help himself and indulged in a "Look at the lap times." Schumacher suggested, archly. Villeneuve countered with the casual observation that "Eddie blocked me for one lap. That gave Michael a three or four second lead and lost me

the race." So there. To reinforce the point. Villeneuve offered the hope that "the championship will not be decided by what Eddie or Hemz Harald Frentzen, his Williams teammate] does." This was some-

what optimistic, since it pre-

supposed that the hapless Frentzen will be sufficiently on the pace to be a factor. Still, the pitlane's Smashey

a hidden agenda.

world championship will gen-

erate around \$50 million in

sales of Schumacher merchan-

dise. That is an alarming

prospect, given that the Ger-

mans who are converging on

Jerez are already swathed

from head to toe in the red of

It is going to be a long.

Ferrari red.

noisy, weekend.

and Nicey Show settled down to something approximating normality until the issue of Schumacher's sportsmanship was brought up for the umpteenth time. Villeneuve, apparently bored by proceedings, came over all phil-

"We know what we have to do," he said, somewhat superfluously, given that he had been continually reminded of his need to finish ahead of Schumacher. There is no point in doing something unsporting if you can't live with it. I know I couldn't live with it, so I don't want to do

something like that." It took a microsecond for the audience to switch their attention to Schumacher's smiling face. He was innocence per sonified, and was at pains to counter the rumour that Ferrari's new electronic differential system is merely a subtle form of cheating. anything like that," he said "We just want to race. That is

Well, up to a point. Outside, in what passes as the real world despite its obvious artificiality, the paddock settled down to discuss personalities. Everyone has an opinion. Few are really valid, because everyone in a team uniform in

Ma's girl Jiang sets

By Davio Powell ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

another world record from one of his athletes and what Ma predicts, Ma usually gets. Yesterday, in the final of the 5,000 metres at the China National Games in Shanghai, Jiang Bo improved the women's world record to 14min 28.09sec - three seconds inside the mark set by Dong Yanmei on Tuesday.

National Games was 14:36.45, set by Fernanda Ribeiro, from Portugal, in 1995. Jiang's time yesterday,

14:28.09sec. is 8.36sec quicker than Ribeiro's figures. After Dong had recorded 14:31.27 in the heats, followed by Jiang in 14:31.30, Ma said: They could have run faster." He added that they would do so in the final.

Games. And what Ma predicts, Ma usually gets.

elis Oliver Holt redemption is a slow one DANNY BAKER Deep blues in Manchester European woes PLUS

Rome

Formula One slavishly follows Craig Pollock, Villeneuve's manager, at least veered off course heroically and insisted: "Jacques is extremely concerned about the possibility of Schumacher or his brother [Ralf] or Eddie Irvine taking him off. He's pretty confident, but if he doesn't win he'll try even harder next year. There's Speaking of business. Willi Weber, Schumacher's hirsuite manager, has been doing his He estimates that a third



with John Whitaker



No 1233

ACROSS

- 5 To compliment, praise (12) 8 Organism as rust, yeast (6)
- 9 Attractiveness; court case
- 10 It marches on its stomach (Napoleoni (4)
- 12 Remedial treatment (7) 14 Eg slip, cover (7)
- 15 Expectorated; tiff (4)
- 17 Relatives by marriage (2-4) 18 Overseas (6)
- 20 Ship's loading mark (8.4)
- 2 Comfv: a bar (4) 3 Junior diplomat (7)
 - Pretentious nonsense (8) 6 Hazard (4)
 - 7 Merchant ship, no regular route (5.7)

! Of one's job; sort of 6, 12,

- 11 Stephane —, Fr. symbolist 13 Retirement incomes board-
- ing house (7)
- 16 How! like baby (4)
- 19 Bird: complain (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1232 ACROSS: 1 Void 3 Cynical 8 Coppice 9 Phyla 10 Thong 11 Relapse 13 Pitch dark 17 Thumbed 19 Serge 20 Padre 22 Contact 23 Rebukes 24 Pear DOWN: 1 Vacate 2 Impromptu 3 Clear the decks 4 Nepal 5 Cry 6 Leader 7 Midget 12 Poker face

THEESSETIMES BOOKSHOP

14 Absent 15 Stupor 16 Mentor 18 Bleak 21 Dub

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to begin with Cameroon

AFTER serving notice on Europe that he has a team with genuine prospects of winning the World Cup, Glenn Hoddie is preparing to warn the rest of the globe. The England coach is determined that his plans for the tournament in France next summer should include warm-up fixtures against teams from several continents and, to that end, the Football Association ticked Africa off the list yesterday by confirming Cameroon

as England's next opponents. The Lions will visit Wemblev on November 15 for a opm kick-off and will provide a worthwhile test, as well as an enthralling game. They were one of the first teams to qualify for France, finishing unbeaten in a group containing Angola, Togo and Zimbabwe. They have produced a new generation of footballers since the era of Roger Milla,

the flamboyant striker. A decent crowd could have been expected at Wembley whoever the opponents, given the jubilation after England's draw in Rome. That the game is against Cameroon, who forced England into extra time before Bobby Robson's side gained a 3-2 victory in the quarter-finals of the 1990 World Cup, rather than the BY MATT DICKINSON

less exotic alternatives of Portugal, Sweden and Finland. should add a few more to the gate. The sides last met in February 1991, when Graham Taylor's side won 2-0, with both goals coming from Gary Lineker.

England's preparations are also likely to include a game against South American opponents, while South Korea are being considered as representatives of Asia. Wales and Northern Ireland are believed

Ferguson's quest Daiglish thwarted Lee defiant ... to be keen on arranging a match against England, but

> likely to look farther afield. Hoddle's predecessor. Terry Venables, meanwhile, has thrown his unequivocal support behind Hoddle's regime. The Australia coach, who will soon lead his team into a playoff for a place in the finals. believes England can do better than in Euro 96, when they lost to Germany in the semi-finals. They are among the best sides in the world and

Lancaster Gate officials are

I have no doubt they can win the World Cup." Venables

"They look really impres sive. I would back them all the way. Glenn has put together a strong squad of players and has done brilliantly to follow on from where I left off after Euro 96. It is one of the best squads I can remember and that has to be down a lot to the

strength of the Premiership." England's bid for the 2006 World Cup took a new turn yesterday when it was revealed that grounds in Wales and Scotland were being considered as venues.

The idea, which is unlikely to be welcomed by Fifa, was mooted by Alec McGiven, director of the bid, "This is purely something we are considering for organisation pur-poses," he said. "We will have first-class stadia on our doorstep in Glasgow and Cardiff and they could be part of our plans to help stage the

There is no suggestion this is anything other than an England bid. England, as the host nation, would be the only one to qualify automatically." The Football Association has sent a delegation to South

America to lobby support for

32-nation finals.

England's case.

world best

MA JUNREN had predicted

The world record before the

Jiang said that she was looking forward to the Olympic Games. Ma said: "I want to assure all the Chinese people that my runners can win at least three gold medals in the 2000 Sydney Olympic

